Driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona

from Mexico to Utah

Fourth Edition in full color

Raymond C. & Jennifer L. Andrews

Driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona

From Mexico to Utah

An Off-road Travel Guide to the Great Western Trail in Arizona

by

Raymond C. Andrews
and
Jennifer L Andrews

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Medical Grail Trilogy
The Life and Times of Benjamin Wiggins, M.D.
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Driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona
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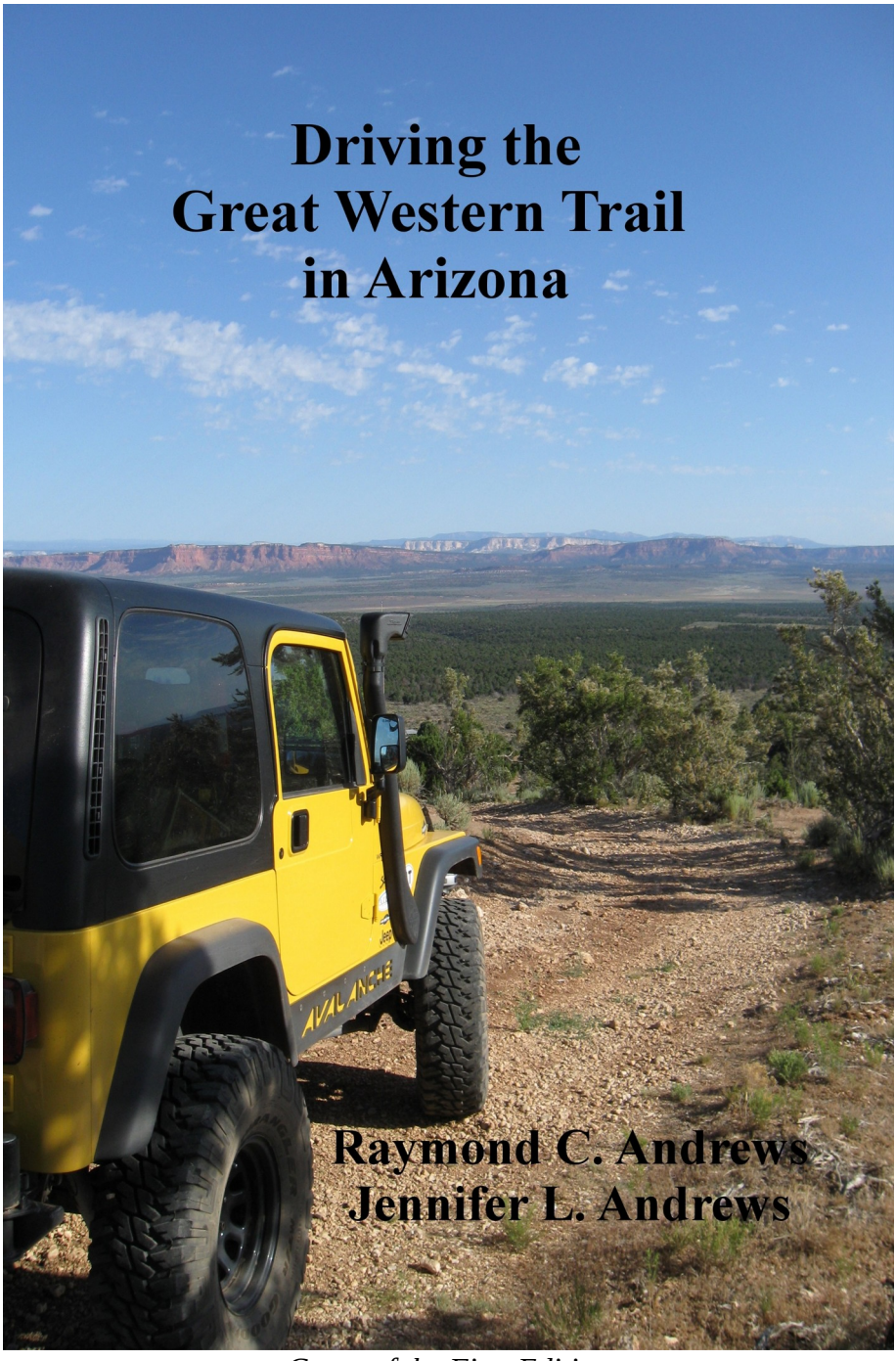
We would like to thank Gary Keller, Chairman of the Arizona Council and Trails Coordinator, for describing and then leading us on the seven sections the Great Western Trail south of Phoenix, and Mike Drawsky for the cover photograph as well as for many of the pictures of those same trails.

We would also like to thank the many dedicated Forest Rangers in the state of Arizona whose friendly help and invaluable information made this book possible.

Preface to the Fourth Edition

While the Great Western Trail has remained largely unchanged since the publication of the earlier editions of this book, this final edition of *Driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona* includes the last four sections, completing the Trail from Mexico to Utah.



Cover of the First Edition

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George
GWT 12
GWT 11
GWT 13
GWT 10
GWT 9
GWT 8
Flagstaff
Great Western Trail
GWT 7
GWT 6
Prescott
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Arizona
GWT 4
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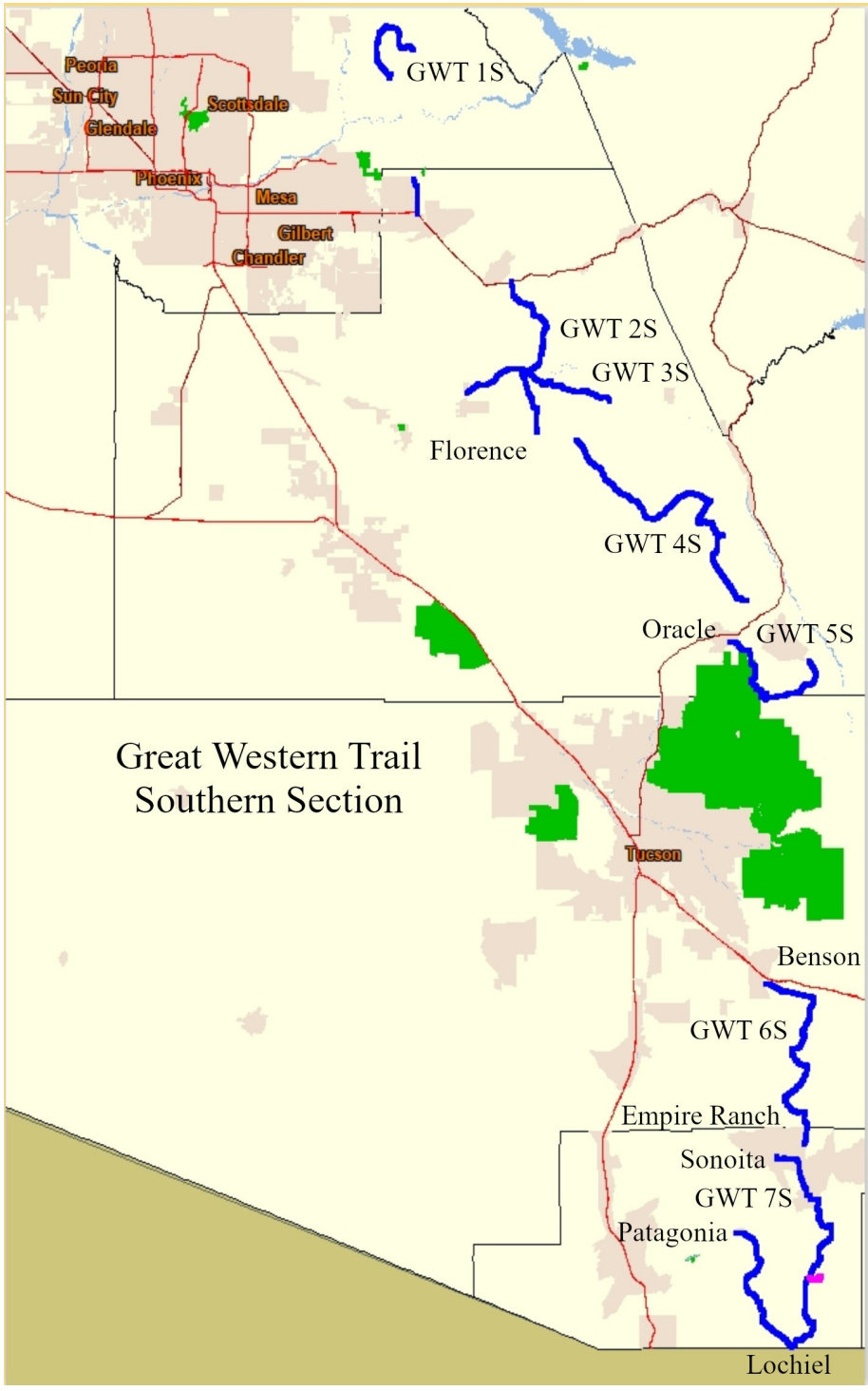
Peoria
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Gilbert
Chandler
GWT 1S
GWT 2S
GWT 3S
Florence
GWT 4S
Oracle
GWT 5S
Great Western Trail
Southern Section
Tucson
Benson
GWT 6S
Empire Ranch
Sonoita
GWT 7S
Patagonia
Lochiel

Disclaimer

Although we have made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of the information herein, we and the publisher disclaim any and all liability for any loss, inconvenience, vehicle damage or personal injury that may occur to anyone who uses this guidebook.

Driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona will not will teach you how to survive in the Arizona desert, nor is it an instruction manual for off-road driving, since experience driving on primitive roads can come only through practice under the guidance of an expert. Nor is it intended to be the sole source of information regarding the Great Western Trail. Maps and other information are available from Ranger Stations in the various forest districts. Off-road travel always presents risks, and simply because a trail has been described in this guide does not mean it will be safe for you to travel on it.

Road conditions will change after floods, landslides, and other natural disasters, sometimes making them far worse than what we describe in this guide. It is therefore incumbent upon you to check road conditions and to know your vehicle's limitations before driving any of these trails.

We have written *Driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona* to help you enjoy the splendor of Arizona’s backcountry. Although you can drive some small sections of the trail in a passenger car, *we do not condone it, and we will assume you are an experienced off-road driver and you will be driving, in the company of other expert drivers, a high-clearance 4-wheel drive vehicle that is properly maintained and equipped for travel on unpaved, primitive, and remote trails.*

Be safe! Exercise caution, bring proper supplies and communication equipment (see appendix A for some suggestions). Know First Aid and how to repair your vehicle if it breaks down. It may be a long time before help reaches you on the remote trails.

Bentonite formation along Highway 89

Once upon a time in the West

In 1776, while states on America's east coast were declaring independence from England, two Spanish priests, Dominguez and Escalante, were camping with Paiute Indians at the base of the Kaibab Plateau in northern Arizona. The trail the Indians showed them, now known as the Jacob Hamblin/Mormon Honeymoon Trail, still exists, as do the Beale Wagon Road and the Moqui Stage Station. Today's adventurers can travel these trails and visit these sites on All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), bicycles, horseback, snowmobiles, or as we do, in a modified Jeep towing an off-road trailer.

These trails welcome those yearning to follow in their ancestors' wagon ruts, and except for the fires, floods, and landslides that have occurred over the past centuries, they remain as they were when pioneers, cattle ranchers, and Mormon Honeymooners first ventured into Arizona: teeming with wildlife, exotic plants, and breathtaking rock formations that expose the history of the earth.

Driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona will help you drive the trail from Mexico to the Utah border on some of the same roads your ancestors may have traveled 200 years ago. It is long and lonely, and days without Facebook and Twitter can lead to erratic and sometimes violent behavior, yet if you are willing to leave behind the comforts of civilization, driving through Arizona's spectacular backcountry is an experience you will long remember.

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Chapter One:
History of the Great Western Trail

Lyle Gomm, a former Inter Mountain Region Trail Coordinator, is the "father" of the Great Western Trail. His idea to create a long distance trail open to a variety of users began in Utah during the 1970s, and in 1985 he organized an inter-agency team including the Forest Service, Utah Department of Natural Resources, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service to create the Bonneville Rim Trail to connect the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Parks. In 1986, Dale Sheewalter, a volunteer promoter of the Arizona Trail (Grand Canyon National Park to Nogales, Mexico), suggested the Arizona and Bonneville Rim Trails be renamed the "Great Western Trail."

Simon Cordial from England, and James Priest Lake from New York, hiked the proposed trail from Idaho at the Canadian border to Nogales, Mexico from May to October 1986. In 1990, the Great Western Trail Association was incorporated under the provisions of the Utah Nonprofit Corporation and Cooperative Association Act.

The Great Western Trail joins preexisting back-country trails, dirt or gravel roads, and high speed highways, to create a system of routes that terminate independently or rejoin a main route. It was conceived as a 4,500-mile long network of trails that would traverse central Arizona, Utah, and Wyoming, ending at the Idaho-Montana border with Canada. It was designed to serve all-terrain and 4-Wheel vehicle enthusiasts, motorcyclists, horseback riders, hikers, and in the high country, snowmobile riders.

In Arizona the Trail, with its "Points of Discovery" or historic and instructive sites, begins at Lochiel on the border with Mexico in the southern Basin and Range deserts of southern and western Arizona where vegetation is sparse, but cacti, mixed grasses, chaparral, and sagebrush thrive in the alkali soil. Next it travels through the Central

Highlands (mountainous) Region in the middle of the state. Here, at elevations between 5,000 and 10,000 feet, temperatures remain high throughout the year, and piñon trees, Apache fir, aspen, and bristlecone pine abound.

It ends in the northern Colorado Plateau Region where tablelands range from 5,000 to 7,000 feet. Winters are cold, but summers are warm. Rain is common, and Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine grow on these high plateaus of the Kaibab National Forest.

In Arizona the Great Western Trail Association and the Arizona State Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs have designated 582 miles of trail from Mexico to the Utah border, on federal, state and private lands.

The route near the Mexican border accesses Sky Islands, a term Weldon Heald coined in 1967 to denote mountain ranges isolated from each other by intervening valleys of grassland or desert which inhibit the movement of various species, just as seas isolate plants and animals on islands.

Since it would be impractical to start the trail in Mexico for logistical reasons, we have divided it into north and south sections with Phoenix as the central hub. As such the northern trails are identified as GWT 1-12 (plus the Navajo Reservation, which is not a part of the trail), and the southern trails are identified as GWT 1S-7S.

The first leg of the trail north from Phoenix, Bulldog Canyon in the Tonto National Forest, was dedicated in April 1996. Two years later the Cave Creek segment was added. This passes the Seven Springs Campground, an oasis developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps one hundred years ago, as it winds its way to Bloody Basin Road. The Sears-Kay Ruin, at the beginning of the trail, is a nearby "Point of Discovery."

From here you can drive through the Agua Fria National Monument to I-17 or, if you are more adventurous, turn north on a rocky trail that crosses shale ledges and rivers to Dugas and then to the San Dominique Winery before it crosses Interstate 17. It then meanders through grasslands, across riverbeds, and over Mingus Mountain, to Highway 89A where it enters Martin Canyon, also known as Smiley Rock because of a pumpkin sized rock on the side of the trail that appears to have eyes, nose, and a mouth.

It is a leisurely ride to Jerome, a mining town that became a ghost town half a century ago, and which, according to the locals, is

home to specters. Artisans have revived it and it is now a well-known tourist destination. The town sits on unstable ground and is in constant downhill motion as astute visitors may notice from necklaces that swing almost imperceptibly on their stands in jewelry store display cases.

After Jerome the trail goes north to Perkinsville in the Verde Valley and then onto the Mogollon Rim and the world's largest strand of Ponderosa pine trees. Sycamore Canyon with its red sandstone sculptures near White Horse Lake, is another "Point of Discovery." The trail continues to Parks and Williams on I-40 where you will find food, lodging, and gasoline. It is less challenging as it continues north of Parks though the grasslands and forests of the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest, before entering the Tusayan Ranger District. This section, after a bewildering patchwork of unmarked paths on the Navajo Nation, (not officially part of the Great Western Trail), slips off the Coconino Rim south of the Little Colorado River Gorge into the austere world of red and white sandstone, to Highway 64.

The Trail ends here before restarting at House Rock on Highway 89A, but before driving into the mountains, stop at the Navajo Tribal Park Ranger Station at the junction of Highways 89 and 64 to pick up a permit to camp on the reservation near the Hopi Salt Trail. In Cameron you can also get supplies, a mouthwatering Navajo Taco, and Native American jewelry and pottery.

After crossing the Navajo Bridge over Marble Canyon, and skirting the beautiful and colorful Vermilion Cliffs on Highway 89A, the trail starts anew at House Rock Valley Buffalo Ranch with a difficult ascent into the mountains along a trail beginning at the base of the Kaibab Plateau. A marker states that Spanish priests Dominquez and Escalante traded for food with the Paiute Indians in 1776.

North of South Fork Canyon the Great Western Trail ascends the north plateau of the Kaibab National Forest where California Condor soar in the thermals above the Vermilion Cliffs.

A few miles southeast of Jacob Lake, the last leg of the trail travels north to Orderville Canyon, descends the North Kaibab Plateau toward the Buckskin Mountains, and ends in Utah with spectacular views of the Chocolate, Vermilion, and White Cliffs.

There are seven trails south of Phoenix, all in a desert environment. Lying in the southern Basin and Range deserts of

southern and western Arizona, these are mostly on sand which heavy rains, wind, and rock slides may modify or completely destroy from year to year. Sand which is smooth and compact one year may become rutted, washed out, and washboard, or expose loose gravel and rock shelves that may make your drive more interesting but probably not impossible. Roller Coaster hills are frequent, and some of these can be challenging, especially on 4S, Barkerville Road to Tucson Wash, and 6S, S. Sonoita Highway to the Empire Ranch.

The Great Western Trail is a primitive route without water, fuel, or fast-food restaurants. It will challenge the most adventurous, and will enlighten and amaze those searching for an exciting respite from the hustle and bustle of civilization.

Wildlife is abundant along this Trail, and you may see Rocky Mountain elk, white-tailed and mule deer, horses, antelope, black bear, skunk and many other species. Contrary to picture-postcards sold in many tourist stops, however, the Arizonan jackalope, a jackrabbit with antelope horns, does exist, but it is not native to the state.

Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center on Highway 89A in Marble Canyon

Chapter Two:
Safety & Rules of the Road

The Great Western Trail is exciting, informative, and challenging, but it can also be unforgiving. During your trek from Mexico to the Utah border, you will travel through hot, sandy deserts, cool forested mountains, and everything in between. None of the challenges the Trail presents is impossible, although each requires its own set of driving rules. Motor sports, and especially off-road driving, are potentially dangerous. Be prepared and use good judgment when driving the Trail.

It is not within the scope of this book to teach off-road driving, but we will describe some of the obstacles you may face and suggest how to overcome them. You can find more detailed instruction including videos, at Tread Lightly!, www.treadlightly.org, and at other online sites. If you have no experience in off-road travel, before driving the Trail take a course with a qualified instructor or join a 4-Wheelers club and go on several trips with its members. *Never travel alone.*

Know your vehicle and its capabilities

A skilled driver in a high clearance, 4-wheel drive vehicle should have no difficulty with any leg of the Trail, but an unskilled driver will, no matter how much he has modified his vehicle. Unless someone has moved them since we wrote this book, wrecked vehicles along several of the trails bear silent witness to our warning. We do not know all the specific causes of the accidents, but there are at least two: the driver overestimated his abilities and the capabilities of his vehicle and exceeded their limits, or his vehicle had unknown or uncorrected problems before beginning the trip.

Make sure you or your mechanic inspect your vehicle before you embark on your trip. Top up all fluids, check for leaks, and make any necessary repairs. They are easier to make in a warm, dry garage than on the side of a mountain during a winter blizzard or in the desert in the summer where the air temperature is 120 degrees.

Travel alone or in company?

There is no easy answer to this question. We personally believe it is wise to travel with at least two other vehicles (preferably four or five) since sections of the Great Western Trail are remote and challenging. Co-travelers can offer immediate help in case of an accident or breakdown.

Even if you drive a well-maintained vehicle, are experienced in off-road driving techniques, and have a communications device that is effective in remote areas, such as a satellite phone or a Personal Locator Beacon, please do not travel these trails alone.

Know where you're going

The maps and waypoint coordinates in this guide will help you find your way through each leg of the Trail; study them carefully before beginning your journey. To use the coordinates, you will need a GPS unit with a remote antenna for improved reception, or a laptop computer with topographic software, such as Fugawi or Terrain Navigator, and a GPS receiver.

You should also have maps of the national forests, which you can purchase from the USDA Forest Service at www.nationalforeststore.com since electronic equipment can fail. Death by GPS is a known fact. Paper maps do not depend upon the whims of batteries and USB connections, and you can find free maps of regions through which the GWT passes at Ranger Stations in the Tonto, Prescott, and Kaibab National Forests.

Before starting your trip, you should know where each trail begins and ends, its length, and any obstacles it may present. Note the location of nearby towns in case you need supplies or assistance, as there are no stores or service stations along the trails. And before you set off, in company of others, of course, tell someone where you will be and how long you expect to be away. Cellphone service is erratic or nonexistent on most of the trails, but Rangers will know where to look for you if you or your party do not return at the expected time.

Know the weather

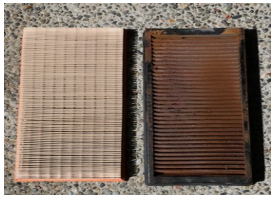
The number one cause of death from natural phenomena in Arizona is flash floods, and you can find yourself in a torrent of water even if it is not raining where you are. This happens regularly in the

Grand Canyon. Do not travel these trails when heavy rains are predicted in the area. A dry wash that was a perfect area to set up your tent can turn into a river overnight, sweeping you and your equipment downstream.

Necessary Equipment

We offer a list of suggested items to bring with you in Appendix A. Bring only what you think you will need. Spare axles and transfer cases are not necessary and their weight will change your spry Jeep into an unwieldy tank.

Dust is a problem on some trails. Unless you are your group's leader, your vehicle's interior will be covered with it by trail's end. Larry Blau, a frequent trail companion, has eliminated the problem by taping an engine air filter over the air intake on his Jeep's hood. I followed his example and the amount of dust in my Jeep dropped by 95%. The hood filter is on the left and the engine filter is on the right in the photograph.



OBSTACLES ALONG THE GREAT WESTERN TRAIL

Driving in the desert

All the trails around and south of Phoenix are in the desert and some are heavily traveled, especially on weekends and holidays. As a result the sand is well packed and will present few challenges, however the cacti, trees and bushes that line these trails may. If your vehicle breaks down, or if you get a flat and do not have a spare tire or puncture repair kit (we once met a driver who left his spare tire at home because he said he got better mileage without the extra weight. An irreparable sidewall tear from sliding off a rock and a subsequent 150 mile round-trip to buy a replacement, changed his habits), stay near your vehicle unless you know how far you are from the nearest source of aid. Your supplies are in your vehicle, and rescuers can more easily spot a large vehicle in the middle of a known trail than a

dehydrated body under a bush.

Make shade from whatever you have available to protect you from the sun. Keep your clothes on, wear a head covering, and do not sit on the ground. It will be much hotter than the air.

Driving on sand

Fine sand, as you will find in the summer when it is extremely dry, is difficult to drive on and is best tackled in a 4-wheel drive vehicle in low gear with its tires aired down. Narrow tires will dig into the sand, but flotation tires with their wide footprint, will be less likely to do so. If your tires start spinning, take your foot off the accelerator immediately to avoid digging into the sand. If you need to dig yourself out, put branches, rocks, or your floor mats under your wheels for traction.

Avoid rocks in the sand. Like icebergs, they could be larger than you think and may damage your tires.

Drive as straight as possible since the front tires will pack down the sand making travel easier for the rear tires. Steering and braking will take longer than usual, so plan for them in advance. If you need to park, do so on a downhill slope if you can.

Driving on gravel

Traction is less on gravel than on a paved road. Slow down when changing from one surface to another and leave plenty of distance between you and the vehicle you are following to avoid having your windshield cracked by flying rocks.

Driving over rocks

There are no large boulders on the Trail, but there are small ones as well as ledges to climb: use low gear, 4-wheel drive, and keep your speed at 1-3 mph. Cross ditches at an angle, one wheel at a time.

Also lower your tire pressure and drive *over* the obstacles, placing your wheels directly on them. Do not straddle rocks since you risk "high-centering" your vehicle if it gets stuck on one, preventing you from moving forward or backward.

Driving over hills

If you cannot see over them, first walk them to see what is on the other side. Blasting over the top of a hill only to see the road curve

sharply to the right as your vehicle careens off a cliff will ruin your trip.

Always drive straight up and down a hill, as turning on it may cause your vehicle to slide or to roll over. Increase power during the climb, but ease off the accelerator as you near the top of the hill. If your wheels spin, turning your steering wheel back and forth may help you regain traction.

If you stall on the way up, back straight down in reverse gear and use engine compression, not your brakes, to slow your vehicle. 4-wheel drive and low gear is best in this situation.

Driving in mud

This usually is not a major problem on the GWT since there are bypasses around known trouble spots, but even a light rain can make the clay very slippery. Avoid mud when you can, since you will have no idea how deep it is unless you probe it.

If you cannot avoid it, air down and switch into 4-WD low, third or fourth gear. Pick a line that looks shallow and dry before entering it. Drive fast enough to maintain momentum, but stop if your wheels start to spin. As on a hill climb, turning your steering wheel back and forth rapidly may help you regain traction. If you get stuck, try backing out, again turning your steering wheel back and forth.

If you remain mired, you will have to dig your way out. Put rocks and whatever else is handy under the tires. Jacking up your vehicle may be difficult if the mud is soupy.

If rain is predicted, reschedule your trip or your vehicle may look like ours did after we drove GWT 9.

Rules of the Road

The following is reprinted with permission from Tracy Hackworth at Tread Lightly!, a nonprofit organization whose mission is "to promote responsible outdoor recreation through ethics education and stewardship."

We are responsible for keeping these trails open for the enjoyment of our children and grandchildren. The principles here, if followed by all of us, will ensure they will be.

Tread Lightly!'s website, www.treadlightly.org/ is a gold mine of information regarding all aspects of off-road travel and merits a visit.

TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY

Travel responsibly on designated roads, trails or areas.

- Travel only in areas open to four-wheel drive vehicles.
- For your safety, travel straight up or down hills.
- Drive over, not around obstacles to avoid widening the trail.
- Straddle ruts, gullies, and washouts even if they are wider than your vehicle.
- Cross streams only at designated fording points, where the road crosses the stream.
- When possible, avoid mud. In soft terrain, go easy on the gas to avoid wheel spin, which can cause rutting.
- Don’t turn around on narrow roads, steep terrain, or unstable ground. Back up until you find a safe place to turn around.
- Stop frequently and scout ahead on foot. To help with traction, balance your load and lower tire pressure to where you see a bulge (typically not less than 20 pounds).
- Know where the differential or the lowest point on your vehicle is. This will help in negotiating terrain and prevent vehicle damage resulting in oil and fluid spills on the trail.
- Maintain a reasonable distance between vehicles.
- Comply with all signs and respect barriers.
- Travel with a group of two or more vehicles. Driving solo can leave you vulnerable if you have an accident or breakdown. Designate meeting areas in case of separation.
- Choose the appropriate winch for your vehicle size.
- Attach towing cable, tree strap, or chain as low as possible to the object being winched. Let the winch do the work; never

drive the winch.

- When winching always inspect your equipment, use the right winch for the situation, find a good secure anchor, and never winch with less than five wraps of wire rope around the drum.
- When using a tree as an anchor, use a wide tree strap to avoid damaging the trunk of the tree.
- Don't mix driving with alcohol or drugs.

RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS

Respect the rights of others, including private property owners, all recreational trail users, campers and others so they can enjoy their recreational activities undisturbed.

- Be considerate of others on the road or trail.
- Leave gates as you find them. If crossing private property, be sure to ask permission from the landowner(s).
- Yield the right of way to those passing you traveling uphill. Yield to mountain bikers, hikers, and horses.
- When encountering horses on the trail, move to the side of the trail, stop, turn off your engine, and speak – you want the horse to know you are human. Ask the rider the best way to proceed.
- Proceed with caution around horses and pack animals. Sudden, unfamiliar activity may spook animals – possibly causing injury to animals, handlers, and others on the trail.
- Do not idly ride around in camping, picnicking, trailhead, or residential areas.
- Keep speeds low around crowds and in camping areas.
- Keep the noise and dust down.

EDUCATE YOURSELF

Educate yourself prior to your trip by obtaining travel maps and regulations from public agencies, planning for your trip, taking recreation skills classes, and knowing how to operate your equipment safely.

- Obtain a map – motor vehicle use map where appropriate – of your destination and determine which areas are open to off-highway vehicles.
- Make a realistic plan and stick to it. Always tell someone of your travel plans.
- Contact the land manager for area restrictions, closures, and

permit requirements.

- Check the weather forecast before you go. Prepare for the unexpected by packing necessary emergency items.
- Buckle-up! Seat belts are mandatory. Know your limitations. Watch your time, your fuel, and your energy.
- Take an off-highway drivers course to learn more about negotiating terrain in a four-wheel drive vehicle.
- Make sure your vehicle is mechanically up to task. Be prepared with tools, supplies, spares, and a spill kit for trailside repairs.

AVOID SENSITIVE AREAS

Avoid sensitive areas such as meadows, lake shores, wetlands and streams. Stay on designated routes.

- Other sensitive habitats to avoid include living desert soils, tundra, and seasonal nesting or breeding areas.
- Do not disturb historical, archeological, or paleontological sites.
- Avoid "spooking" livestock and wildlife you encounter and keep your distance.
- Motorized and mechanized vehicles are not allowed in designated Wilderness Areas.

DO YOUR PART

Do your part by modeling appropriate behavior, leaving the area better than you found it, properly disposing of waste, minimizing the use of fire, avoiding the spread of invasive species, and restoring degraded areas.

- Carry a trash bag on your vehicle and pick up litter left by others.
- Pack out what you pack in. Practice minimum impact camping by using established sites, camping 200 feet from water resources and trails.
- Observe proper sanitary waste disposal or pack your waste out.
- Protect the soundscape by preventing unnecessary noise created by a poorly tuned vehicle or revving your engine.
- Before and after a ride, wash your vehicle to reduce the spread of invasive species.
- Build a trail community. Get to know other types of recreationists that share your favorite trail.

Chapter Three:
How to Use This Guide

When we began writing this book, we thought of including everything even minimally associated with the Great Western Trail. We soon realized that describing every rock formation, every plant, every animal, as well as every nearby city, town, or park, would result in an encyclopedia and not a guidebook.

The Great Western Trail is an adventure, and to experience it fully you must explore it, study it, and live it. As a result we chose to give you the important, difficult-to-find information about it and enough of its interesting geology, history, botany and zoology to stimulate you to research it before you drive it. Books and references that will help you in this task are in the bibliography.

Trail Names

We assigned numbers to each of the trails for convenience only. Where they exist, we also used their official or semi-official names. For example, 4-Wheelers know Great Western Trail 7 as "Smiley Rock," although maps refer to it as Martin Canyon. Others trails take their names from where they start and end, such as Great Western Trail 9: Interstate 40 to US 180.

Open Months/Best Time to Travel

The trails in the southern part of the state are open year-round, but because of the intense desert heat in the summer, it is better to travel them in the spring, fall, and winter. The nighttime temperatures in the desert can be 30 degrees colder than daytime temperatures, so bring warm clothing with you even in the summer. A sleeping bag will come in handy if your vehicle breaks down and you have to spend the night under the stars.

In the northern part of the state, the trails may be closed from December to the middle of May because of snow or flooding. Official

campsites are also closed during the winter months, but if the trails are open, dispersed camping is allowed.

Rain is scarce until monsoon season, but when it begins, roads may become impassable and flash flooding occurs. Do not camp in washes and stay out of narrow canyons when rains are predicted.

Mileage

The total mileage indicated for each trail is taken from tracks recorded in Terrain Navigator Mapping Software using a Navibe GM720 receiver, and is presumed to be accurate. However the distance between waypoints is approximate. We made every effort to ensure accuracy, but many variables, from rerouting of the trails after flooding or rock slides, to GPS inaccuracy, to the influence the tire size on your modified Jeep has on your odometer, will cause discrepancies.

The waypoint coordinates of the routes are also approximate because of the inherent errors in the GPS system. However they are on the tracks shown on our maps, and minor discrepancies should not cause difficulty.

Travel Time

We calculated travel time based upon our group traveling non-stop along the trail at a safe speed. If you picnic or camp along the way, or are in a hurry to complete the trail, your time will be significantly longer or shorter than ours.

Difficulty is relative

The idea behind the creation of the Great Western Trail was to make it open to novice and expert drivers alike, and you can drive short sections of some of the trails in a Cadillac (which we do not recommend). If you are an inexperienced off-road driver, avoid the most difficult trails unless you are with a group of experienced drivers: Dugas (GWT 5), Smiley Rock (GWT 7), Interstate 40 to US 180 (GWT 9), House Rock to Jacob Lake (GWT 11), Barkerville Road to Tucson Wash Road, (GWT 4S), and S. Sonoita Highway to the Empire Ranch (GWT-6S).

Driving skill, experience, and vehicle modification are different among those who will drive this Trail, as a result what is difficult for one driver may not be for another. Before driving any of

these trails, know, and do not exceed, either your vehicle's limitations or your driving skills.

We base our ratings on the most difficult part of the trail. Therefore, if it is gravel for its entire length except for one obstacle that will require 4-WD and lockers to overcome, we rate the entire trail as difficult. Many trails are easy, which means they are gravel, washboard, or packed dirt and sand. We rate a trail as moderate when is it washed out, rutted, or rocky.

Remoteness

On a scale of 1 to 4, "1" suggests you will be in the company of others on the trail, especially on weekends and holidays. "4" suggests you will have only wildlife for company, although even these trails become busy during the hunting season.

Services Available

There are no services along the trails. Most end or begin near a town or city where you can get food, supplies, and fuel, but some do not. Refuel before driving the longer trails, especially in the remote areas of northern Arizona.

Road Information and Restrictions

The Forest Rangers are your best source for up-to-date information about trail closures, changes, and seasonal restrictions, such as those regarding campfires. Floods, forest fires, and other natural disasters may cause rerouting or even closure of a trail.

Arizona is known for its hot deserts, but it also has a rainy season, and snow can be meters high in its northern region. At those times the forest roads are impassible. Check for restrictions and closures online or at the ranger stations before setting out. Their addresses are in Appendix B.

General Permits

Before driving on any of the trails, contact the ranger stations about permits. The information in this book was accurate at the time of its publication, but may change.

At this time you need a permit to camp or park in the recreation areas of the Tonto National Forest, but not to drive through it or to camp in non-recreational areas. You can buy it online, at many stores

in Fountain Hills, or at ranger stations near the trails.

You will need a permit from the Arizona State Land Department to drive on State Trust Land. A downloadable pdf file, Arizona Off-Highway Vehicle Guide, OHV Laws and Places to Ride, gives valuable information about licensing regulations and other laws.

You will also need permits to drive the Bulldog Canyon in the Mesa District of the Tonto National Forest, and to drive or to camp on the Navajo Reservation. The Reservation is not part of the Great Western Trail, but it is worth a visit

You will find information at the ranger stations listed in Appendix B.

Camping Restrictions

The following information about dispersed camping comes from the US Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management: http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st__george/recreation/camping/dispersed_camping.html

If you intend to camp along the GWT, please follow these regulations. Failure to do so could result in a forest fire or fine, or both.

It is the general policy of the BLM that undeveloped Federal lands under its administration are available to the public for camping and general recreation, with the following provisions:

- Camping at any one site is limited to 14 days per visit
- Pack out what you pack in
- Avoid camping within 200 ft. of any water source
- Do not leave campfires unattended.

Whenever camping outside designated campsites please practice the following minimum impact style camping:

Camp at previously used sites, if possible. Research studies have shown that the most rapid negative changes to soil and vegetation occur during the first few times a campsite is used.

Firepans or stoves are recommended when camping on BLM. A fire pan is a metal tray used to contain a campfire and prevent the fire from blackening the soil (oil pans work great!). Before breaking camp, it is a simple matter to transfer cold ashes into a plastic bag or other container for disposal at home. If you use a fire pan carefully, it

is possible to leave a campsite with no scars or evidence of your use.

Avoid building new fire rings. Unnecessary fire rings scar the natural beauty of sites and reduce the amount of space available for sleeping and cooking areas.

*Use only dead and down wood for campfires***.** Bringing your own firewood is the best policy to practice. Both dead and live trees add to the scenic qualities of campsites.

*Do not put cans, bottles, or aluminum foil into a fire ring***.** These items do not burn, and their presence may lead subsequent users of the site to build a new fire ring.

Burn campfire logs to ashes, then douse with water. Do not smother a campfire with soil, as this will make it difficult for the next visitor to use the same fire ring. If you must leave a campsite before the fire burns all of the wood, douse the fire with water before you are ready to leave camp, then stir it with a stick, then douse it again to make sure it is completely out.

CAMPFIRES OF ANY KIND MAY BE BANNED DURING HIGH FIRE DANGER PERIODS.

Dispose of human waste properly. The use of portable toilets is highly recommended. If no portable toilet is available, solid body waste and urine should be buried in a hole six to twelve inches deep. The disposal site should be located well away from streams, campsite, and other use areas. Toilet paper should be placed in a small plastic bag and put into your camp trash bag.

Pack out your trash (and a little extra). Do not leave or bury trash at campsites. If you pack it in, pack it out.

Waypoints

While at first it may seem confusing, it is actually very easy to interpret the waypoint data accompanying the maps of the trails. As you will note from the *How to Use the Driving Guide* on the next page, the first line is the number and name of the trail. In this case it is GWT 6: Mingus Mountain.

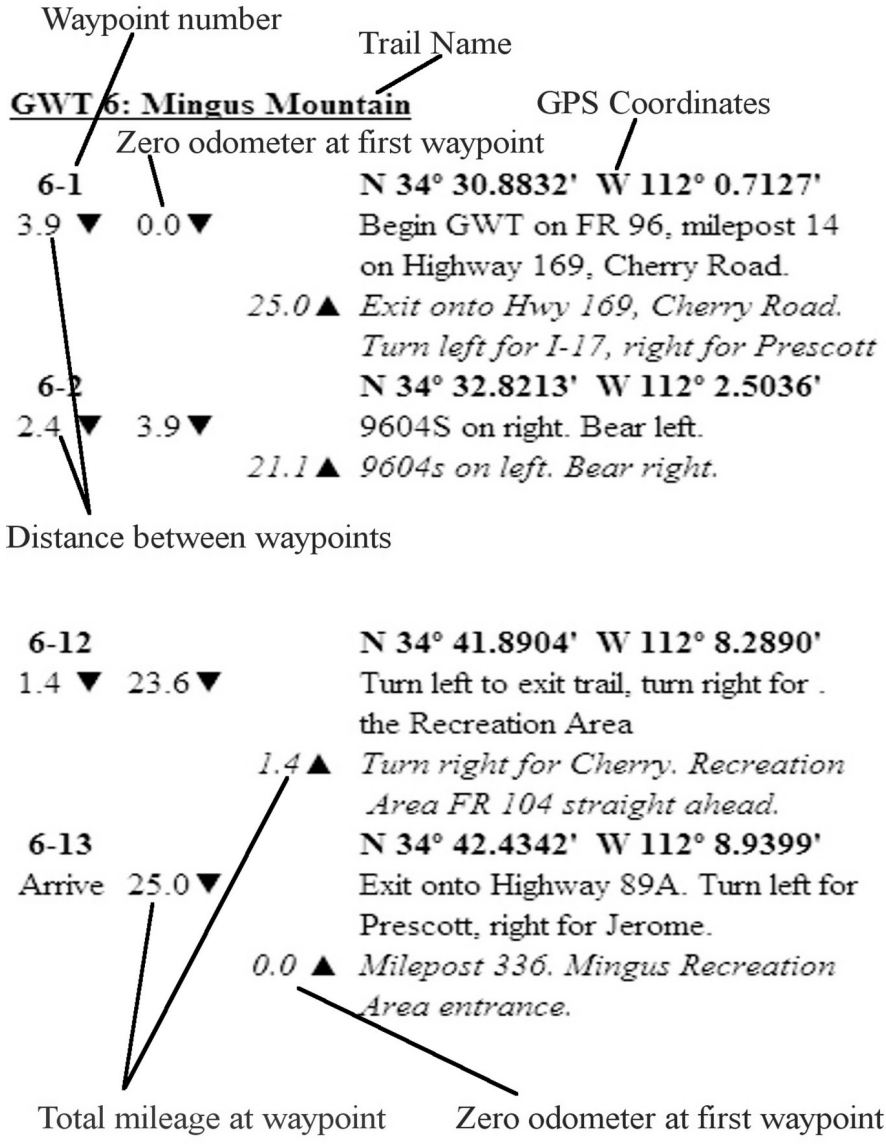
Line 2 contains the waypoint ID and its coordinates: 6-1 is at N34° 30.8832' W112° 0.7127'.

Line 3, column 1 is the distance in miles between waypoints 6-1 and 6-2. The inverted triangle indicates you are traveling from 6-1 to 6-2, or from 6-2 to 6-1. This distance is not cumulative. In this example the distance between 6-1 and 6-2 is 3.9 miles. The distance between 6-12 and 6-13 is 1.4 miles.

Line 3, column 2 is your starting point, and you should zero your odometer here. The distance between waypoints in this column is cumulative. At 6-12 you will have driven 23.6 miles; at 6-13, the end of the trail, you will have driven 25.0 (23.6 + 1.4) miles.

Line 5, column 3 is for those who drive this trail in the other direction, starting at 6-13 and ending at 6-1. The mileage between waypoints in this direction has an upward pointing triangle. The distances between waypoints remain the same, as does the total mileage, 25.0.

Line 3 and 5, column 4 is where you will be at the waypoint. In this case if you start your trip at 6-1, you "Begin GWT on FR-96, milepost 14 on Highway 169, Cherry Road.". If you begin your trip at 6-13, at 6-1, where you end your trip, you "*Exit onto Highway 169, Cherry Road. Turn left for I-17, right for Prescott.*"


Waypoint number
Trail Name
GWT 6: Mingus Mountain
GPS Coordinates
Zero odometer at first waypoint
6-1
N 34° 30.8832' W 112° 0.7127'
3.9 ▼ 0.0 ▼
Begin GWT on FR 96, milepost 14 on Highway 169, Cherry Road.
25.0 ▲ Exit onto Hwy 169, Cherry Road. Turn left for I-17, right for Prescott
6-2
N 34° 32.8213' W 112° 2.5036'
2.4 ▼ 3.9 ▼
9604S on right. Bear left.
21.1 ▲ 9604s on left. Bear right.
Distance between waypoints
6-12
N 34° 41.8904' W 112° 8.2890'
1.4 ▼ 23.6 ▼
Turn left to exit trail, turn right for . the Recreation Area
1.4 ▲ Turn right for Cherry. Recreation Area FR 104 straight ahead.
6-13
N 34° 42.4342' W 112° 8.9399'
Arrive 25.0 ▼
Exit onto Highway 89A. Turn left for Prescott, right for Jerome.
0.0 ▲ Milepost 336. Mingus Recreation Area entrance.
Total mileage at waypoint
Zero odometer at first waypoint

Transferring Waypoint Coordinates to Your GPS Unit

It is easy to transfer the waypoint coordinates in this book to your GPS, but because of the vast number of makes and models (Garmin, TomTom, Magellan, Furuno), as well as the various computer operating systems (Windows, Apple, Linux), and the myriad software applications available (Terrain Navigator, Fugawi, GPS TrackMaker), we cannot offer one explanation that will work for everyone.

The process of creating a route, however, is similar in all cases: either enter the map coordinates directly into your GPS, or enter them into a computer software application and then transfer the finished route to your unit, either by a data cable that connects your computer to your GPS, or by copying the route to a memory card and then inserting it into your GPS.

If your unit did not come with computer software such as Garmin's BaseCamp, free software is available at www.maps-gps-info.com/fgpfw.html. EasyGPS is a popular program that works with many GPS units.

All coordinates were compiled using Terrain Navigator (standard edition) software (DATUM = NAD27). No coordinate should be more than 60 feet (approximately 18 meters) in error. Waypoints in general are at intersections, where the terrain presents interesting features, or at an obstacle we rate as difficult.

Road signs and their meanings

This is a primary route open to passenger cars, motor homes, and trailers.

This indicates the road is similar to a primary route but bumpier. As this sign has not as yet been universally adopted, it may sometimes indicate a high clearance road. Check with the Rangers before driving this trail if you have a low clearance vehicle.

Roads open to high clearance vehicles

Great Western Trail signs in Arizona

THE TRAILS

Great Western Trail from Mexico to Utah

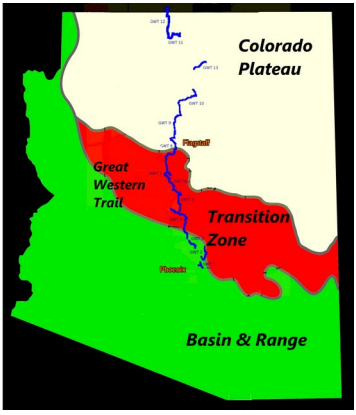
The Great Western Trail in Arizona is now complete. The sections of the trail from Phoenix to Utah were described in the first edition of this book, those from Phoenix to Florence appeared in the third edition. The entire trail from Mexico to Utah is described in this final edition.

In the third edition of this guidebook, the trails from Phoenix north to Utah were identified as GWT 1 to GWT 12, and those from Phoenix to Florence were identified by abbreviations of their names. As an example, “FKL” identified the Florence-Kelvin Loop.

In this edition, we have made Phoenix the starting point for the northern and the southern portions of the trail. The sections north of Phoenix retain their original designations; those from Phoenix to Mexico are identified as GWT 1S(outh) to GWT 7S.

Great Western Trail 1:
Bulldog Canyon with Alternate and Mountain View Road

This moderately difficult trail lies in the state's Basin and Range Region along with Butcher Jones, Needle Rock, and all the southern trails.



The trails in the Basin and Range Region are in vast areas of gravel and sand carried down from the surrounding mountains. Rainfall is minimal here, and tree-lined desert washes (streams), which seem to be a prefect place to camp or picnic, can become roaring torrents in minutes after a heavy rainfall. As a result, these trails, especially those primarily in washes, can vary significantly in difficulty and location after storms. Depending upon the time of the year, you will encounter mud, washed-out roads, sand, which will be deep and dry in the summer or fairly firm in the winter, and gravel, all of which may be accompanied by thorny bushes which will crowd the trails and scratch your vehicle.

Because of these natural variables, and since all mileage

estimates are rounded off to the nearest tenth of a mile, you may encounter differences between the trail as described in this book and the trail you are driving. In any case, the waypoints are accurate and they will guide you through the trails.

Although primitive, on weekends and holidays the Bulldog Canyon Trail is populated by campers, horseback and ATV riders, as it winds its way through the Sonoran Desert and the Goldfield Mountains south of the Salt River in the Tonto National Forest.

The Usery and Goldfield mountains were the theater of the Arizona gold rush in the 1800s. In the nearby Superstition mountains, the Lost Dutchman Mine, more fiction than fact, was where Jacob Walz, a German, allegedly found gold. According to the stories, he would wander off into the mountains and eventually return with his donkey laden with the yellow ore. He existed, but any gold he brought back did not come from the Superstitions, since there is none there. Storytellers have added disappearances, gunshots in the dark, and mysterious footprints to the tale.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 1-1: Blue Point. To arrive at the entrance gate, drive north on Power Road from US 60 to Bush Highway/FR 204 and turn north. Drive approximately 13 miles on Bush Highway to the FR 10 Junction west of the Blue Point Recreation Site Bridge.

Waypoint 1-4 Wolverine (Difficult trail): From US 60, exit north at Idaho Road. Drive 4.5 miles to McKellips Road, then turn right. Turn left on Wolverine Pass Road, turn right onto Tonto Road, and then left on Cactus Road to the gate at FR 10.

Waypoint 1a-5 Usery (Easy trail): From US 60, exit north on Ellsworth and drive north 8 miles to FR 3554 and turn right. This entrance is 3/4 mile north of Usery Pass County Road.

Waypoint 1-11: Cottonwood. This entrance to FR 1356 is between mileposts 202-203 on SR 88, Apache Trail.

A detailed map of the area, a list of rules and regulations for driving Bulldog Canyon, and the necessary OHV Access Permit are available at the Mesa Ranger Station or online.

Roads Comprising Trail: FR 10, FR 3554 and FR 1356. All routes other than these and 12, 3512 and 3556 are closed to motorized travel.

Open months/Best Travel: All year, but fall-winter-spring are the best seasons because of the intense summer heat.

Permits: The permit from the Mesa Ranger Station is available online at: http://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/tonto/passes-permits/other/?cid=stelprdb5348179&width=full. Note that this is not the same as the Tonto Pass. It is free and contains the padlock combinations to open the gates to the trails for a six-month period. The combinations change monthly.

Elevation Min/Max:

FR 10 – difficult trail: 1451'/2230'
FR 1356 – easy trail: 2085'/2321'
FR 3554 – easy trail: 1451'/2215'

Paved Mileage: Mountain View Road: 3.4 miles.

Unpaved (total) Mileage:

FR 10: 8.3 miles.
FR 1356: 5.4 miles.
FR 3554: 6.8 miles.
Mountain View Road: 1.2 miles.

Travel Time:

FR 10: 2.5 hours.
FR 1356: 44 minutes.
FR 3554: 1 hour.
Mountain View Road: 12 minutes.

Difficulty:

FR 10: difficult depending upon conditions.
FR 1356: easy.
FR 3554: easy.
Mountain View Road: very easy.

Remoteness: 1/4. FR 3554, FR 1356, and FR 10 are well traveled to the point of congestion on weekends when campers and horse enthusiasts flock to the area.

Services Available: None along trail. Full services are available at Apache Junction.

Driving the Trail: This trail is primitive in some areas and requires a 4-wheel drive, high clearance vehicle to negotiate the

obstacles. Waypoint 1-3 on FR 10 (5.3 miles from the Blue Point Entrance Gate) is a steep descent down washed-out, rocky terrain before the trail curves sharply to the right and ends in a ravine. This is the only difficult section of the trail, but difficulty varies considerably. Since the State of Arizona grades its forest roads every five years, it will be easy following the grading, but worse towards the end of 5-year period. Washouts following heavy rains may also make it difficult. Driving skill and careful wheel placement are necessary during those periods, but it is generally safe and easy for experienced off-road drivers.

At 1-3a you have the option of continuing to 1-4 and exiting the trail at Wolverine, or to turn east on FR 1356 and exit at Cottonwood on SR-88, Apache Trail. Set your odometer to zero if you choose the latter option.

Road Information and Contacts: Mesa Ranger Station, Usery Mountain Park Recreation Area (Appendix B).

Restrictions: This area is closed when there is a High Pollution Advisory for particulate matter (PM10). Check with the Rangers or online before leaving home.

Trash dumping and other violations on this trail can result in fines of up to $5,000 and/or 6 months imprisonment.

Map References:

Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)

USGS Maps:

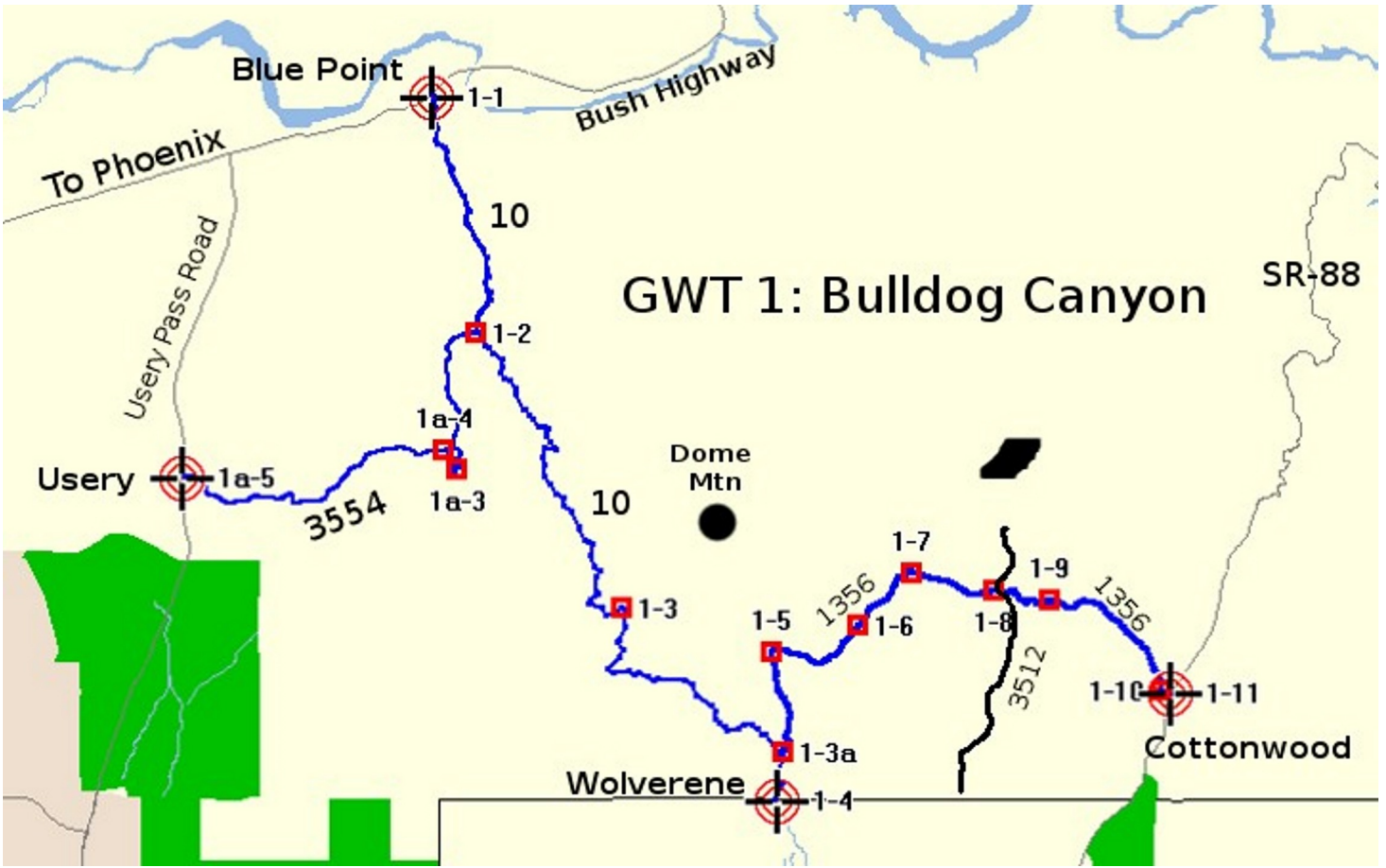
1:24,000: Apache Junction, Stewart Mountain.

1:100,000: Theodore Roosevelt Lake, Mesa.

1:250,000: Mesa (AZ)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 47, 81, 101.

USDA Forest Service Map: Tonto National Forest.


GWT 1: Bulldog Canyon
Blue Point
1-1
Bush Highway
To Phoenix
Usery Pass Road
10
1-2
1a-4
Usery
1a-5
1a-3
3554
10
Dome
Mtn
SR-88
1-3
1-5
1356
1-6
1-7
1-8
1-9
1356
3512
1-10
1-11
Cottonwood
1-3a
Wolverene
1-4

GWT 1: Bulldog Canyon Easy Trail

1-1			**N 33º 33.0494' W 111º 34.8567'**
2.2 ▼	**0.0▼**		Enter FR 10 at Blue Point Entrance Gate.
		***6.7*▲**	*Exit at Blue Point Entrance Gate*
1-2			**N 33º 31.3354' W 111º 34.4682'**
1.6 ▼	**2.2▼**		Bear right into wash.
		***4.5*▲**	*Turn left out of wash onto FR 10.*
1a-3			**N 33º 30.3277' W 111º 34.6503'**
0.2 ▼	**3.8▼**		Bear right.
		***2.8*▲**	*Turn left.*
1a-4			**N 33º 30.4796' W 111º 34.7341'**
2.6 ▼	**4.1▼**		Washed out area.
		***2.6*▲**	*Washed out area.*
1a-5			**N 33º 30.2809' W 111º 37.0079'**
Arrive	**6.7▼**		Exit trail at Usery Entrance Gate.
Start		***0.0*▲**	*Enter FR 3554 at Usery Entrance Gate.*

Goldfield Ghost Town

GWT 1: Bulldog Canyon Difficult Trail

1-1			**N 33º 33.0494' W 111º 34.8567'**
2.2▼	**0.0▼**		Enter FR 10 at Blue Point Entrance Gate.
		8.2▲	***Exit at Blue Point Entrance Gate.***
1-2			**N 33º 31.3354' W 111º 34.4682'**
3.2▼	**2.2▼**		Continue on FR 10.
		6.0▲	*FR 10 straight ahead.*
1-3			**N 33º 29.3315' W 111º 33.2216'**
2.4▼	**5.4▼**		Difficult descent into ravine.
		2.8▲	*Difficult ascent from ravine.*
1-3a			**N 33º 28.2915' W 111º 31.8245'**
0.4▼	**7.8▼**		**REFER TO TEXT**
		0.4▲	**FOR OPTIONS**
1-4			**N 33º 27.9483' W 111º 31.8648'**
Arrive	**8.2▼**		Exit FR 10 at Wolverine Entrance Gate.
Start		***0.0▲***	*Enter FR 10 at Wolverine Entrance Gate.*
			Turn left to exit at Wolverine.
1-5			**N 33º 29.0211' W 111º 31.9130'**
0.9▼	**1.0▼**		Turn right on FR 1356.
		4.4▲	*Turn left on FR 1356.*
1-6			**N 33º 29.2089' W 111º 31.1563'**
0.7▼	**1.9▼**		Bear left.
		3.5▲	*Bear right.*
1-7			**N 33º 29.6007' W 111º 30.7062'**
0.8▼	**2.6▼**		Bear right on FR 1356.
		2.8▲	*Bear left on FR 1356.*
1-8			**N 33º 29.4708' W 111º 29.9872'**
0.6▼	**3.3▼**		Stay on FR 1356; FR 3512 on right.
		2.1▲	*Stay on FR 1356; FR 3512 on left.*
1-9			**N 33º 29.3983' W 111º 29.4935'**
1.4▼	**3.9▼**		FR 1356 marker on left; bear right.
		1.5▲	*FR 1356 marker on right; bear left.*
1-10			**N 33º 28.7395' W 111º 28.5175'**
0.1▼	**5.3▼**		Locked gate at end of trail.
		0.1▲	*Locked gate at beginning of trail.*
1-11			**N 33º 28.7171' W 111º 28.4337'**
Arrive	**5.4▼**		Exit between mp 202-203 on SR88.
Start		***0.0▲***	*Entrance between mp 202-203 on SR88.*

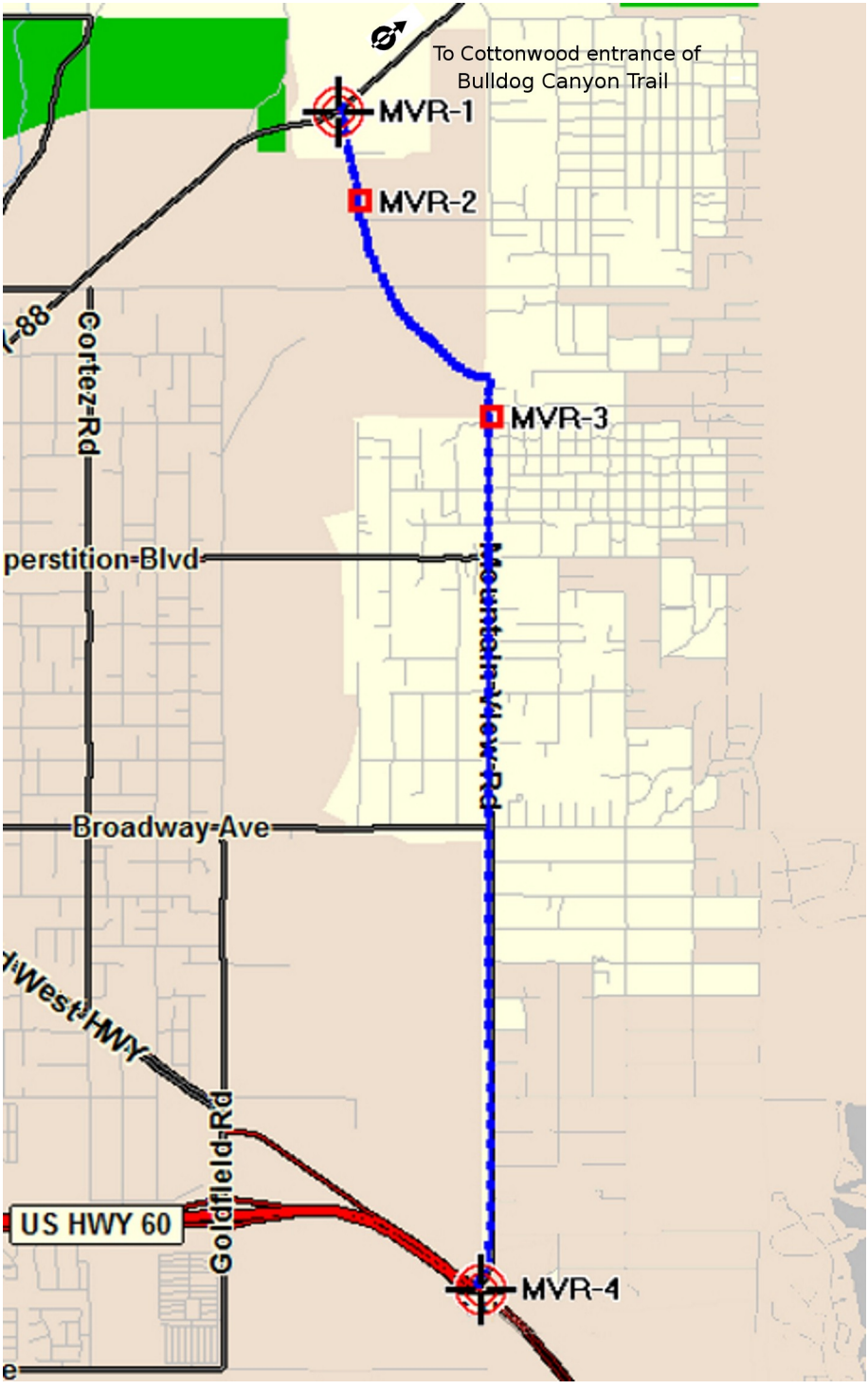
Typical dry road conditions on FR 1356

Mountain View Road is included in the Great Western Trail since it is in part a dirt road, and is a connection between US Highway 60 and the Apache Trail (SR-88). If you drive SR-88 to or from the Cottonwood entrance, you will pass the Goldfield Ghost Town. Stop to explore its shops and historic buildings, tour the Mammoth Gold Mine and visit the Goldfield Museum. http://goldfieldghosttown.com/

Mountain View Rd

MVR1			**N 33 26.7880' W 111 30.1843'**
0.15▼	**0.0▼**		Turn south on Mountain View Road
		4.6▲	*Exit on Apache Trail, State HWY 88*
MVR2			**N 33 26.6505' W 111 30.1547'**
1.15▼	**0.2▼**		Begin dirt road
		4.4▲	End dirt road
MVR3			**N 33 25.8365' W 111 29.6119'**
3.27▼	**1.3▼**		End dirt road
		3.3▲	Begin dirt road
MVR4			**N 33 22.9860' W 111 29.6524'**
Arrive	**4.6▼**		Exit at MP 199 on US HWY 60
Start		**0.0▲**	Enter Mountain View Rd at MP 199 on US HWY 60

Mountain View Road with unmarked grave.


To Cottonwood entrance of
Bulldog Canyon Trail
MVR-1
MVR-2
MVR-3
MVR-4
Cortez Rd
perstition Blvd
Mountain View Rd
Broadway Ave
West HWY
Goldfield Rd
US HWY 60

Great Western Trail 2:
Butcher Jones with Alternate Entrance/Exit

This 27,000-acre recreation area is one hour from Phoenix and is open to all off-highway vehicles. It is named after WW Jones, a doctor who grazed cattle in the area in the 1800s. We presume his nickname, "Butcher", was ironic.

This trail winds though a sandy riverbed and your vehicle likely will be "Arizona Pinstriped" after you complete it. These are fine lines that overhanging brush and branches on the sometimes narrow trail will scratch into its finish.

This low desert is home to rabbits, chipmunks, and quail that will race ahead of your vehicle and slip off into the brush just before you think you will run over them.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 2-1: From Highway 87, exit at Bush Highway (Exit 199), and drive east to the Butcher Jones Recreation Area. The entrance to the Rolls is in the rear but this may change in the future, so contact the Mesa Ranger Station before starting out. Exit at Highway 87. Turn south for Phoenix, north for Payson.

Waypoint 2-15: Enter FR 11 from northbound Highway 87 between mileposts 209 and 210. Exit at Butcher Jones Recreation Area.

Roads comprising the Trail: FR 1813 – FR 13 (Old Bush Highway) – FR 143 – FR 1343 – FR 401 – FR 11 – FR 1863

Open months/Best Travel: As in all the trails in the low desert, the spring, fall, and winter seasons are best. Flash floods are possible during the late summer monsoons.

Permits: You will need a Tonto Pass to park or camp in a recreation area; you do not need it to drive or to camp on the trail.

Elevation Min/Max: 1546'/2772'

Paved Mileage: None

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 14.4 miles.

Travel Time: 2 hours 15 minutes.

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate. A high clearance, 4-WD vehicle will have no trouble with this trail.

Remoteness: 1/4

Services Available: None along trail. The nearest services are at Fountain Hills and Mesa.

Driving the Trail: The southern portion is sandy and covered with numerous tracks that change after each flash flood. Therefore, the GPS coordinates may seem wrong at various points along the trail. Rangers will warn you that you may get lost in the Rolls, but you should have no trouble if you follow our map and coordinates.

Drive in the widest tracks to keep pin-striping to a minimum. Also driving in tracks made by vehicles that have packed down the sand will help keep yours from bogging down. You should air down your tires before driving The Rolls.

Enter The Rolls (FR 1813) from the rear of the Butcher Jones Recreation Area. You do not need a Tonto Pass to can drive through the Recreation Area, but you will need it if you camp or picnic there.

Continue in the sandy wash for about 5 miles until you turn left at the "T" with FR 13. Continue to FR 1343 (2-4). You will cross two cattle guards before turning left on FR 401 (2-7) in about 2 miles. Turn right on FR 143 at 2-8.

At 2-9 enter FR 11 and begin a moderate descent down a steep, rocky, washed out road before leveling off again. This part of the trail is rocky and sandy until it exits onto Highway 87, but it is not difficult. Between waypoints 10-11 you will drive though Mesquite Wash; Rock Creek is between waypoints 2-12&13. Do not enter them if they are flooded. The Stupid Motorist Law, (section 28-910 of the Arizona Revised Statutes), states that any motorist who becomes stranded after entering a flooded stretch of roadway may be charged for the cost of his rescue.

During flash floods raging waters can carry an automobile in a wash downstream. If you call public emergency services to rescue you, they can bill you up to a maximum of $2,000.

The north end of FR 11 is a popular area for target shooters. To my knowledge they prefer only paper or glass targets in an area east of

the trail.

Road Information: Mesa Ranger District (Appendix B).

Restrictions: This trail is subject to closure when there is a High Pollution Advisory for particulate matter (PM10).

Map References:

USGS:

1:24,000: Stewart Mountain, Mormon Flat Dam, Mine Mountain, Adams Mesa, Boulder Mountain.

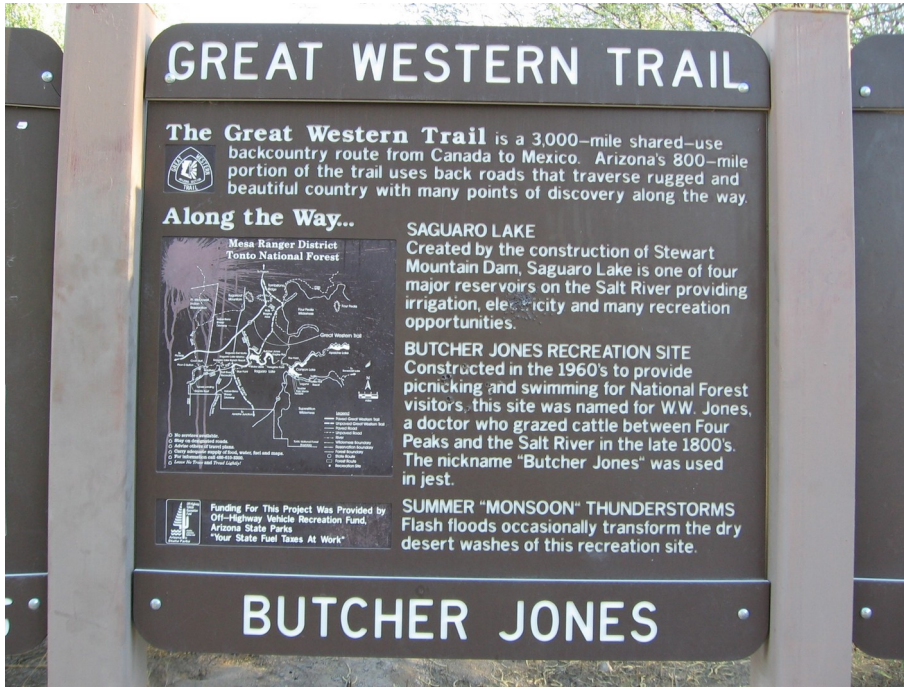
1:100,000: Theodore Roosevelt Lake.

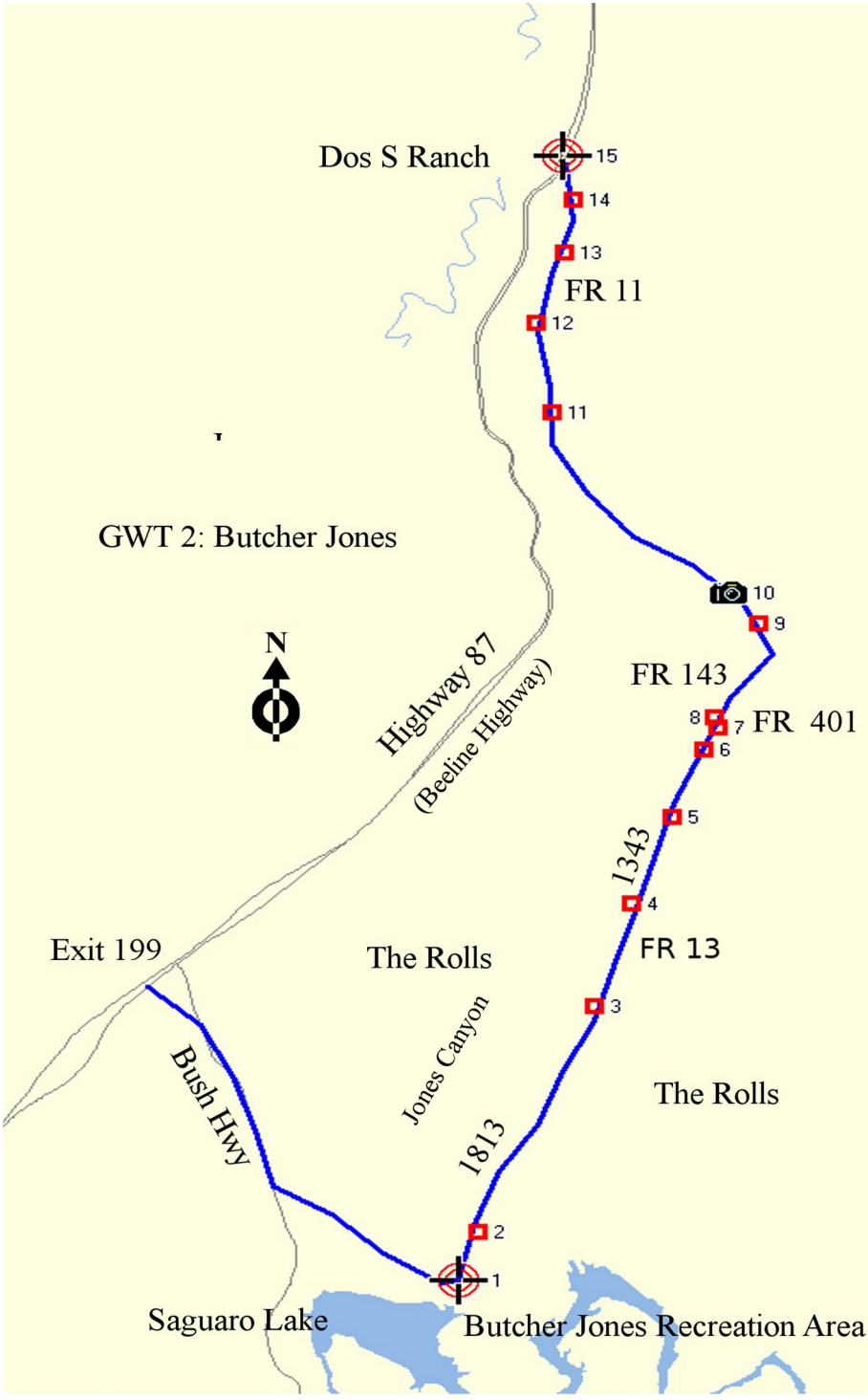
1:250,000: Mesa (AZ).

Terrain Navigator: Arizona South (AZ10).

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 41, 47, 75.

USDA Forest Service Map: Tonto National Forest.


GREAT WESTERN TRAIL
The Great Western Trail is a 3,000–mile shared–use backcountry route from Canada to Mexico. Arizona's 800–mile portion of the trail uses back roads that traverse rugged and beautiful country with many points of discovery along the way.
Along the Way...
Mesa Ranger District
Tonto National Forest
SAGUARO LAKE
Created by the construction of Stewart Mountain Dam, Saguaro Lake is one of four major reservoirs on the Salt River providing irrigation, electricity and many recreation opportunities.
BUTCHER JONES RECREATION SITE
Constructed in the 1960's to provide picnicking and swimming for National Forest visitors, this site was named for W.W. Jones, a doctor who grazed cattle between Four Peaks and the Salt River in the late 1800's. The nickname "Butcher Jones" was used in jest.
Funding For This Project Was Provided by Off–Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund, Arizona State Parks "Your State Fuel Taxes At Work"
SUMMER "MONSOON" THUNDERSTORMS
Flash floods occasionally transform the dry desert washes of this recreation site.
BUTCHER JONES


Dos S Ranch
15
14
13
FR 11
12
11
GWT 2: Butcher Jones
10
9
N
Highway 87
(Beeline Highway)
FR 143
8
7
FR 401
6
5
1343
4
Exit 199
The Rolls
FR 13
3
Jones Canyon
Bush Hwy
The Rolls
1813
2
1
Saguaro Lake
Butcher Jones Recreation Area

GWT 2: Butcher Jones

2-1			**N 33° 34.6538' W 111° 30.8114'**
0.6 ▼	0.0▼		Enter FR 1813 from rear of recreation area.
		14.0▲	*Exit Butcher Jones Recreation Area.*
2-2			**N 33° 35.1198' W 111° 30.6649'**
2.9 ▼	0.6▼		FR 1813 marker on right.
		13.4▲	*FR 1813 marker on left.*
2-3			**N 33° 37.2557' W 111° 29.5215'**
1.3 ▼	3.5▼		FR 1811 marker on left.
		10.5▲	*FR 1811 marker on right.*
2-4			**N 33° 38.2336' W 111° 29.1778'**
1.0 ▼	4.8▼		FR 13 on left. Go straight onto FR 1343.
		9.2▲	*FR 13 on right. Go straight onto FR 1813.*
2-5			**N 33° 39.0565' W111° 28.7913'**
0.8 ▼	5.8▼		Cattle guard.
		8.2▲	*Cattle guard.*
2-6			**N 33° 39.6984' W 111° 28.4918'**
0.3 ▼	6.6▼		Cattle guard.
		7.4▲	*Cattle guard.*
2-7			**N 33° 39.9005' W 111° 28.3549'**
0.1 ▼	6.9▼		Turn left onto gravel road FR 401.
		7.1▲	*Turn right onto FR 1343.*
2-8			**N 33° 40.0047' W 111° 28.3931'**
1.3 ▼	7.0▼		Turn right onto FR 143.
		7.0▲	*Turn left onto FR 401.*
2-9			**N 33° 40.8953' W 111° 27.9761'**
0.5 ▼	8.3▼		Enter FR 11, moderate segment. Rocky, steep and washed out road.
		5.7▲	*End moderate segment.*
2-10			**N 33° 41.1832' W 111° 28.2542'**
2.7 ▼	8.7▼		End moderate segment.
		5.3▲	*Begin moderate segment. Rocky, steep and washed out road.*

2-11			**N 33° 42.8924' W 111° 29.9286'**
1.1 ▼	11.4 ▼		Bear right onto FR 11.
		2.6 ▲	*Bear left.*
2-12			**N 33° 43.7496' W 111° 30.0859'**
0.4 ▼	12.5 ▼		Straight onto FR 11.
		1.5 ▲	*Straight onto FR 11.*
2-13			**N 33° 44.4153' W 111° 29.8037'**
0.6 ▼	12.9 ▼		Bear left on FR 11.
		1.1 ▲	*Bear right.*
2-14			**N 33° 44.9133' W 111° 29.7290'**
0.5 ▼	13.5 ▼		Stay on FR 11.
		0.5 ▲	*Bear right on FR 11.*
2-15			**N 33° 45.3289' W 111° 29.8258'**
Arrive	14.0 ▼		Exit on Highway 87.
		0.0 ▲	*Enter FR 11 between mp 209-210.*

Entrance to GWT 4 from Butcher Jones Recreation Area

Desert View

Dry Wash in the Rolls

Four Peaks

2-10: End Moderate Segment

It's not always as easy as it looks.

How to Get to the Butcher Jones Alternate Trail:

Waypoint 2a-1: Enter FR 143, Cline Cabin Road, from northbound Highway 87.

Exit at Bush Highway. Turn right for Highway 87 and Phoenix or Payson.

Waypoint 2a-11: From Highway 87, exit at Bush Highway (Exit 199), and drive east to the entrance, approximately 2.5 miles, on left.

Exit at Highway 87. Turn south for Phoenix, north for Payson.

Roads comprising the Trail: FR 143 (Cline Cabin Road) – FR 1832 (Four Peaks Road) – FR 13 (N. Old Bush Highway)

Open months/Best Travel: As in all the trails in the low desert, the spring, fall, and winter seasons are best. Flash floods are possible during the summer monsoons.

Permits: You will need a Tonto Pass to park or camp in a recreation area; you do not need it to drive or camp on the trail.

Elevation Min/Max: 1817'/2610'

Paved Mileage: None

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 8 miles.

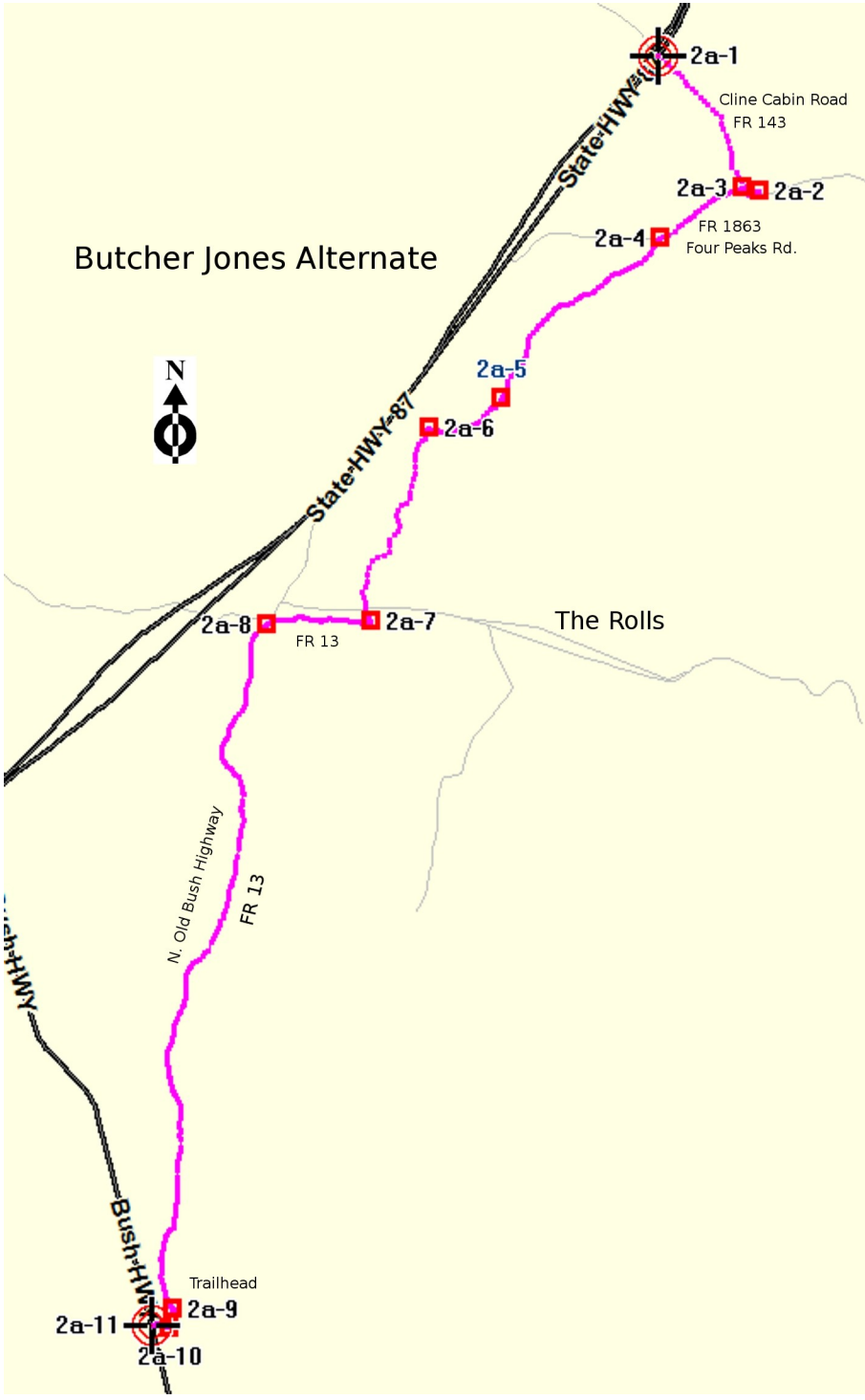
Travel Time: 1 hour.

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate. A high clearance, 4-WD vehicle will have no trouble with this trail.

Remoteness: 1/4

Services Available: None along trail. The nearest services are at Fountain Hills and Mesa.

Driving the Trail: General information and Road and Map Information are the same as that for the original Butcher Jones Trail above.


Butcher Jones Alternate
N
2a-1
Cline Cabin Road
FR 143
2a-3
2a-2
FR 1863
Four Peaks Rd.
2a-4
2a-5
2a-6
State HWY 87
2a-8
FR 13
2a-7
The Rolls
N. Old Bush Highway
FR 13
Bush HWY
Trailhead
2a-9
2a-11
2a-10

Butcher Jones Alternate

2a-1			**N 33° 40.6944' W 111° 30.1172'**
0.8▼	0.0▼		Enter Cline Cabin Road FR 143
		8.0▲	*Exit to Beeline Highway*
2a-2			**N 33° 40.1554' W 111° 29.6251'**
0.1▼	0.8▼		Turn right into parking lot.
		7.2▲	*Left to exit or right to BJ Trail, WP 8.*
2a-3			**N 33° 40.1650' W 111° 29.7084'**
0.5▼	0.9▼		Turn left on FR 1863 (Four Peaks Road)
		7.1▲	*Turn right into parking lot*
2a-4			**N 33° 39.9676' W 111° 30.1086'**
1.1▼	1.4▼		Bear left.
		6.6▲	*Go straight onto 4 Peaks Road.*
2a-5			**N 33° 39.3325' W 111° 30.8776'**
0.4▼	2.5▼		Bear left.
		5.5▲	*Go straight.*
2a-6			**N 33° 39.2044' W 111° 31.2371'**
1.0▼	2.9▼		Turn left.
		5.1▲	*Turn right.*
2a-7			**N 33° 38.4372' W 111° 31.5253'**
0.5▼	3.9▼		Turn right onto FR 13.
		4.1▲	*Turn left.*
2a-8			**N 33° 38.4209' W 111° 32.0280'**
3.4▼	4.4▼		Bear left onto N. Old Bush Highway.
		3.6▲	*Bear right.*
2a-9			**N 33° 35.6830' W 111° 32.4883'**
0.1▼	7.8▼		Trailhead
		0.2▲	*Trailhead.*
2a-10			**N 33° 35.6134' W 111° 32.5023'**
0.1▼	7.9▼		Turn right.
		0.1▲	*Turn left on FR 13.*

2a-11			**N 33° 35.6178' W 111° 32.5935'**
Arrive	8.0		Exit on Bush Highway.
		0.0 ▲	*Enter Alternate Butcher Jones Trail.*

Butcher Jones Rest Area

Great Western Trail 3:
Needle Rock

This trail in the Basin and Range Region is easy and short, but the off-road approach to Needle Rock is in a wash, and the usual warnings about flash floods apply.

An oasis from the summer heat, you can reach Needle Rock either by paved road from Fountain Hills and Scottsdale, or by driving in Camp Creek, a wash that begins at Bartlett Dam Road. Interesting formations of mud and conglomerate rock line the wash.

At the Verde River there is a well-maintained campsite and the cone-shaped Needle Rock. Bald eagles and great blue herons are often seen in the area. Their protected breeding area (Mesquite Bosque) on the far side of the river is off limits to hikers 6 months of the year.

Camping, picnicking, canoeing, fishing and wildlife observation make this a popular site, although the campground is now closed to motor vehicles. There are vaulted toilets and trash service, but no drinking water. Fishing and bathing are allowed, but require a permit.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 1: From Cave Creek Road (FR 24) drive 2.9 miles east on Bartlett Dam Road (FR 19) and turn south onto Camp Creek (FR 413).

Waypoint 7: From Shea Boulevard in Fountain Hills, drive north on Fountain Hills Boulevard, turn right on E. McDowell Mountain Road and then turn north on N. Forest Road (FR 20). Drive through Rio Verde, Tonto Verde, and continue straight to the entrance to Needle Rock.

From Pima Road in Scottsdale, turn east on Dynamite Road and drive three miles to Rio Verde Drive. Continue on Rio Verde Drive to Forest Road (FR 20) and turn left. Needle

Rock is three miles ahead. FR 20 is an unpaved road with narrow blind curves.

Roads Comprising Off-road Trail: Camp Creek Wash (FR 413)

Open months/Best Travel: Year round.

Permits: None to drive the trail. You need a Tonto Pass if you intend to picnic or to camp by the river.

Elevation Min/Max: 1542'/2649'

Total Mileage: 27.6 miles.

Paved Mileage: 14.3 miles from Shea Boulevard in Fountain Hills to the Needle Rock campsite.

Unpaved Mileage: 13.3 miles from Bartlett Dam Road on FR 413.

Travel Time: 1 hour from Bartlett Dam Road.

Difficulty: Easy.

Remoteness: 1/4 from Fountain Hills, 2/4 from Bartlett Dam Road.

Services Available: None on the trail, but food and fuel are available at Rio Verde (three miles), Scottsdale, Cave Creek, Carefree, and Fountain Hills.

Driving the Trail: Camp Creek is a wide, sandy wash with numerous tracks that change after each flood, but they all lead to Needle Rock. Since pin-striping your vehicle's paint is likely, follow the widest track where possible. It is a favorite among ATV enthusiasts, so be careful driving around blind curves.

Road Information: Cave Creek Ranger Station (Appendix B).

Restrictions: The east side of Verde River is closed from December to July, and all motorized access to the river is now prohibited.

Map References:

USGS:

1:24,000: Fort McDowell, Bartlett Dam, Wildcat Hill.

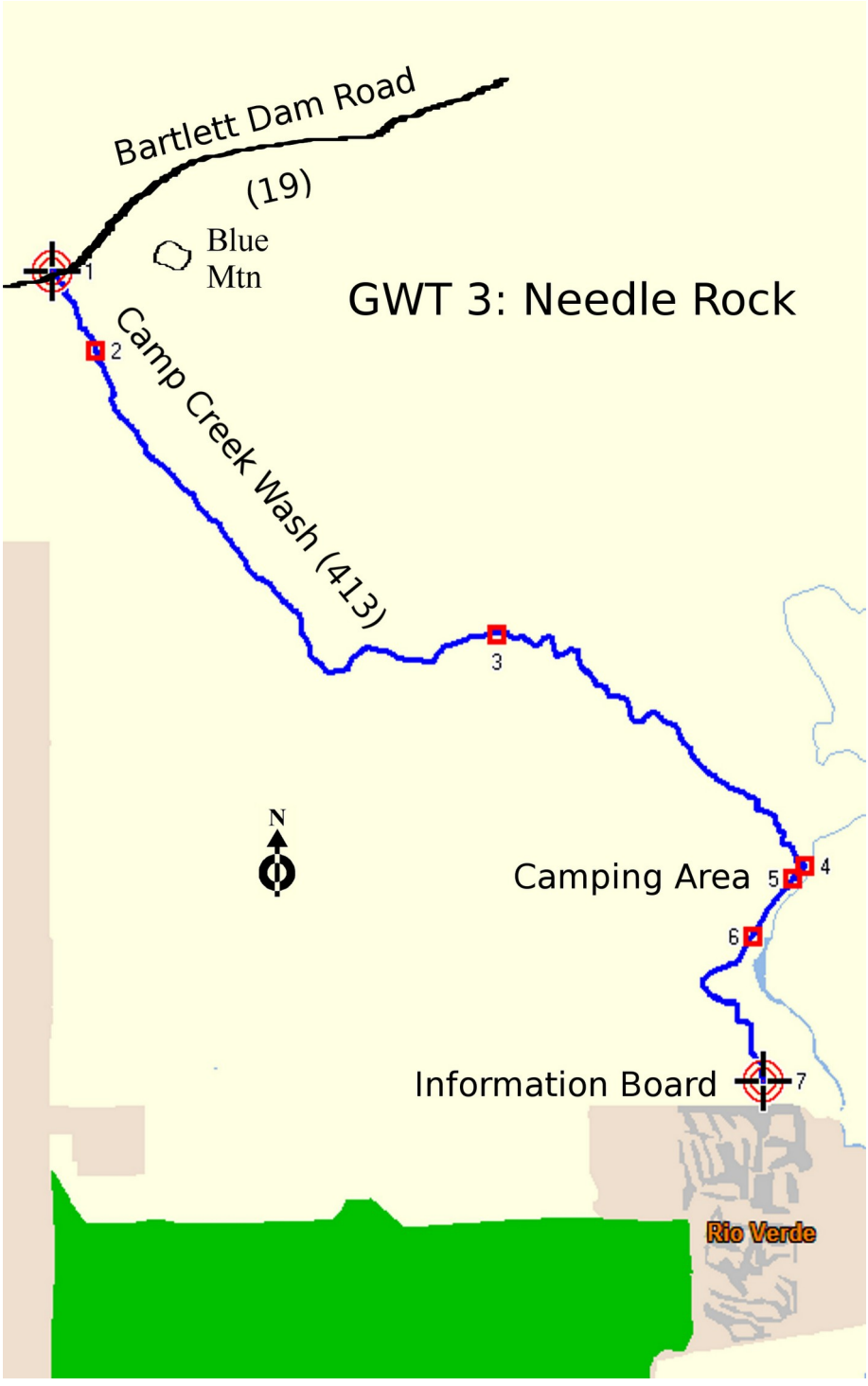
1:100,000: Theodore Roosevelt Lake

1:250,000: Mesa (AZ)

Terrain Navigator: Arizona South, (AZ10).

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 41, 75.

USDA Forest Service Map: Tonto National Forest.


Bartlett Dam Road
(19)
Blue
Mtn
GWT 3: Needle Rock
Camp Creek Wash (413)
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
N
Camping Area
Information Board
Rio Verde

GWT 3: Needle Rock

3-1			**N 33° 50.9211' W 111° 47.1473'**
0.9 ▼	0.0▼		Turn south onto Camp Creek (FR 413) from Bartlett Dam Road (FR 19)
		13.2▲	*Exit onto Bartlett Dam Road (FR 19)*
3-2			**N 33° 50.3024' W 111° 46.7291'**
5.5 ▼	0.9▼		Numerous tracks through sandy wash but all lead to Needle Rock.
		12.3▲	*Sandy wash.*
3-3			**N 33° 48.1210' W 111° 42.8438'**
4.2 ▼	6.4▼		Wash narrows between mud rock and conglomerate rock.
		6.8▲	*Wash narrows between mud rock and conglomerate rock.*
3-4			**N 33° 46.3273' W 111° 39.8678'**
0.1 ▼	10.6▼		Trail ends at camping area.
		2.6▲	*Camping area.*
3-5			**N 33° 46.2359' W 111° 39.9806'**
0.6 ▼	**10.7▼**		End dirt road.
		2.5▲	*Camping area. Begin dirt road to Needle Rock Recreation Area.*
3-6			**N 33° 45.7917' W 111° 40.3732'**
1.9 ▼	11.3▼		FR 2148 on right.
		1.9▲	*FR 2148 on left.*
3-7			**N 33° 45.6820' W 111° 40.2688'**
Arrive	13.2▼		Needle Rock information board.
		0.0▲	*Needle Rock information board.*

Scenery along the trail to Needle Rock

Great Western Trail 4:
Cave Creek to Bloody Basin Road and I-17

At 54 miles, this is one of the longest sections of the Great Western Trail. Cave Creek Road (FR 24) is open to Cadillacs and Bentleys until the Civilian Conservation Corps campground at Seven Springs, after which only 4-wheel drive, high clearance vehicles are recommended. The road may be impassable after a heavy rainy.

Cave Creek Road ends at Bloody Basin Road, which passes through the Agua Fria National Monument before it ends at Interstate 17. Many of the Indian ruins in the area have been incorporated into the monument which President Clinton designated in 1999.

The information board at the junction of Cave Creek and Bloody Basin Roads suggests the latter was named after its blood colored soils. Others say it refers to numerous Indian battles in the area. According to one historical report, after Apache Indians allegedly killed settlers, raided their livestock and stole their supplies, a posse tracked down and killed 100 of them, even though there was no proof they had committed the crimes.

This trail is in the Central Highlands Region of the state, a northwest-southeast band that separates the volcanic Basin and Range Region from the Colorado Plateau. Since this area receives the most rain of the three regions, you'll leave sand and Sonoran cactus behind and travel through pygmy forests of piñon and juniper trees, or larger forests of Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine.

You may see deer, javelina, mountain lions, bobcats and coyotes along this trail. Rockhounds will find agate at the junction of FR 24 and FR 269, and purple agate, jasper, and agate near Sheep Bridge.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 4-1: From Cave Creek, drive north on Cave

Creek Road (FR 24) to the information board 2.3 miles north of Bartlett Road.

Waypoint 4-25: Leave I-17 at exit 259 and drive east on Bloody Basin Road (FR 269).

Roads Comprising the Trail: Cave Creek Road (FR 24) – Bloody Basin Road (FR 269).

Open months/Best Travel: Year round.

Permits: You need a permit to camp or to park in recreation areas in the Tonto National Forest. You can buy a day permit in stores in the area or online, but to buy a yearly permit you will need to go to a ranger station. You do not need one to drive the trail or to camp outside of the recreation areas.

You will also need a permit to drive on state lands. Contact information for the Tonto National Forest and Arizona State Parks permits is in Appendix B.

Elevation Min/Max: 2982'/4983'

Total Mileage: 53.4 miles

Paved Mileage: 3.8 miles

Unpaved Mileage: 49.6 miles

Cave Creek Road to Bloody Basin Road:

Total Mileage: 27.7 miles
Paved Mileage: 3.8 miles
Unpaved Mileage: 23.9 miles
Driving time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Bloody Basin Road to Dugas turnoff (FR 667):

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 14.1 miles
Driving time: 1 hour

Dugas turnoff to I-17:

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 11.6 miles
Driving time: 1 hour

Total Travel Time: 3 hr. 30 minutes.

Difficulty: Easy to moderate.

Remoteness: 2/4

Services Available: None along the trail, but they are available at Cave Creek, Carefree, and Cordes Junction.

Driving the Trail: Begin on Cave Creek Road at the information board 2.3 miles north of the Cave Creek Ranger station on Bartlett Road (FR 19). The road is paved for several miles before becoming graded dirt and washboard gravel.

In 0.3 miles you will arrive at the Sears Kay Ruin, a "Point of Discovery". This is a fortified Hohokam village from the 12th and 13th centuries that overlooks Cave Creek and Carefree. It is an easy hike to the ruins (it is not wheelchair accessible) and worth a visit. The views are spectacular and interpretive signs at the site explain the village's features.

Seven Springs Wash at 4-6 and the CCC campground at 4-7 are recreation sites and a great place to picnic or spend the night. Several hiking trails are nearby.

From this point the trail gets rougher and a sign warns against driving it in a low clearance vehicle or in wet weather when the road may be impassible.

At 4-12, where FR 24 ends, turn right for Sheep Bridge (not part of the GWT) or left for Dugas (GWT 5) and I-17. The information board here describes the points of interest along the trail and gives a brief history of the area.

Sheep Bridge, which spans the Verde River, is at the end of a 12 miles long, rutted, rocky road. The drive will take about an hour. The bridge is not open to motor vehicle traffic and you will need to return on the same road. Its sandy beach is an ideal spot for fishing and picnicking, and a good place to camp.

The turnoff for Dugas (GWT 5) is at 4-16 (FR 677). This is a difficult, remote road; inexperienced drivers should avoid it. You cannot drive it in a low clearance vehicle.

After you pass the entrance to the privately owned Horseshoe Ranch at 2-21, the road dips to cross the Agua Fria River at 4-22. Cross the river where it trickles over a concrete ford, but do not enter it if the water level is high.

Trail Information: Bradshaw Ranger District, Cave Creek Ranger District (Appendix B).

Restrictions: Seasonal. Check with rangers or online for up-to-date information.

Map References:

Great Western Trail, Prescott National Forest Section.

USGS:

1:24,000: Humbolt Mountain, Cooks Mesa, Rover Peak, Bloody Basin, Brooklyn Peak, Joe's Hill, Cordes Junction.

1:100,000: Bradshaw Mountains, Payson,

Theodore Roosevelt lake.

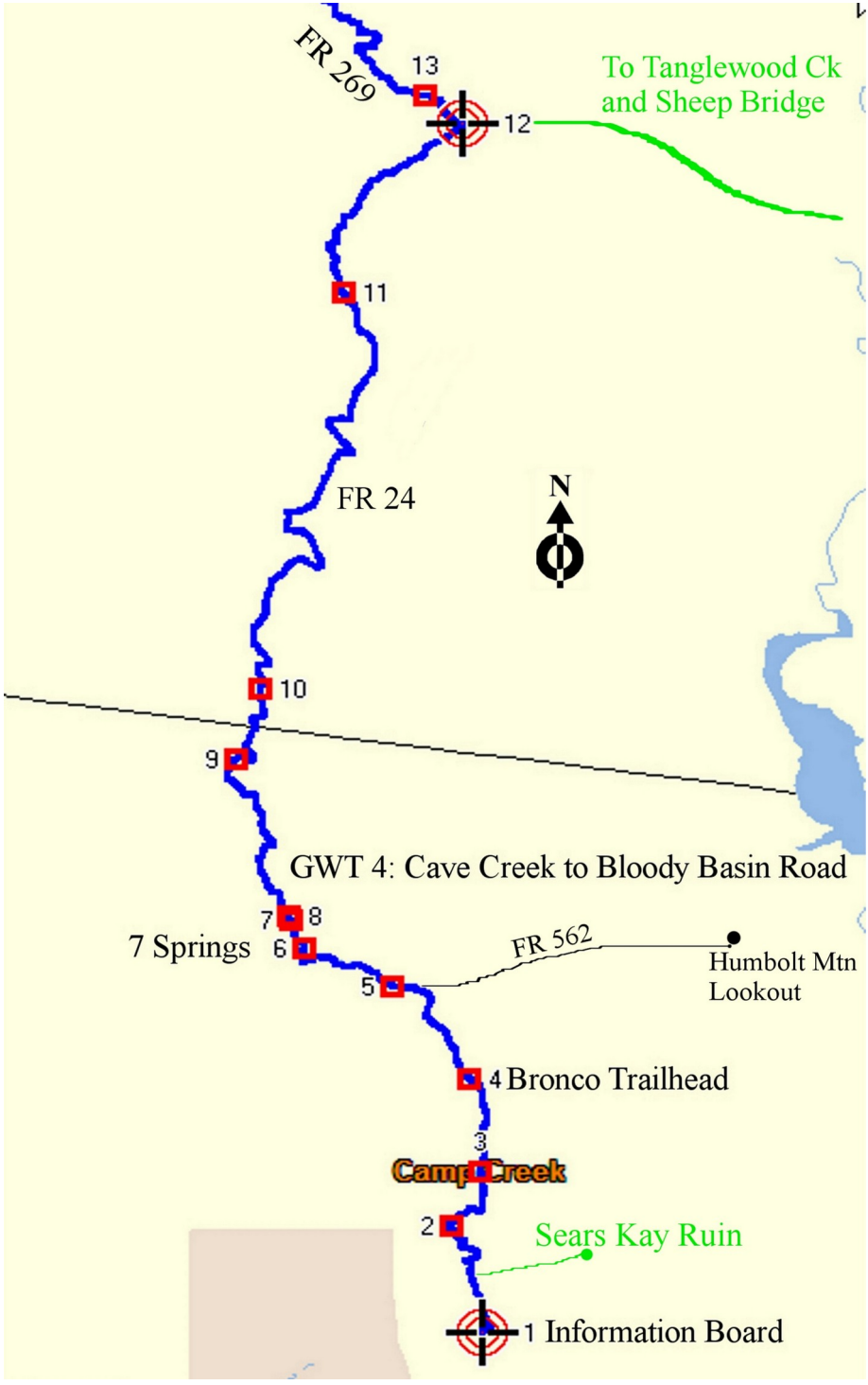
1:250,000: Mesa (AZ), Holbrook (AZ), Prescott (AZ)

Terrain Navigator: Arizona South (AZ10)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 40-41, 74-75, 97.

USDA Forest Service Map: Tonto National Forest; Prescott National Forest.

Picnic Area in the CCC campground.


FR 269
13
To Tanglewood Ck
and Sheep Bridge
12
11
FR 24
N
10
9
GWT 4: Cave Creek to Bloody Basin Road
7
8
7 Springs
6
FR 562
Humbolt Mtn
Lookout
5
4 Bronco Trailhead
3
Camp Creek
2
Sears Kay Ruin
1 Information Board

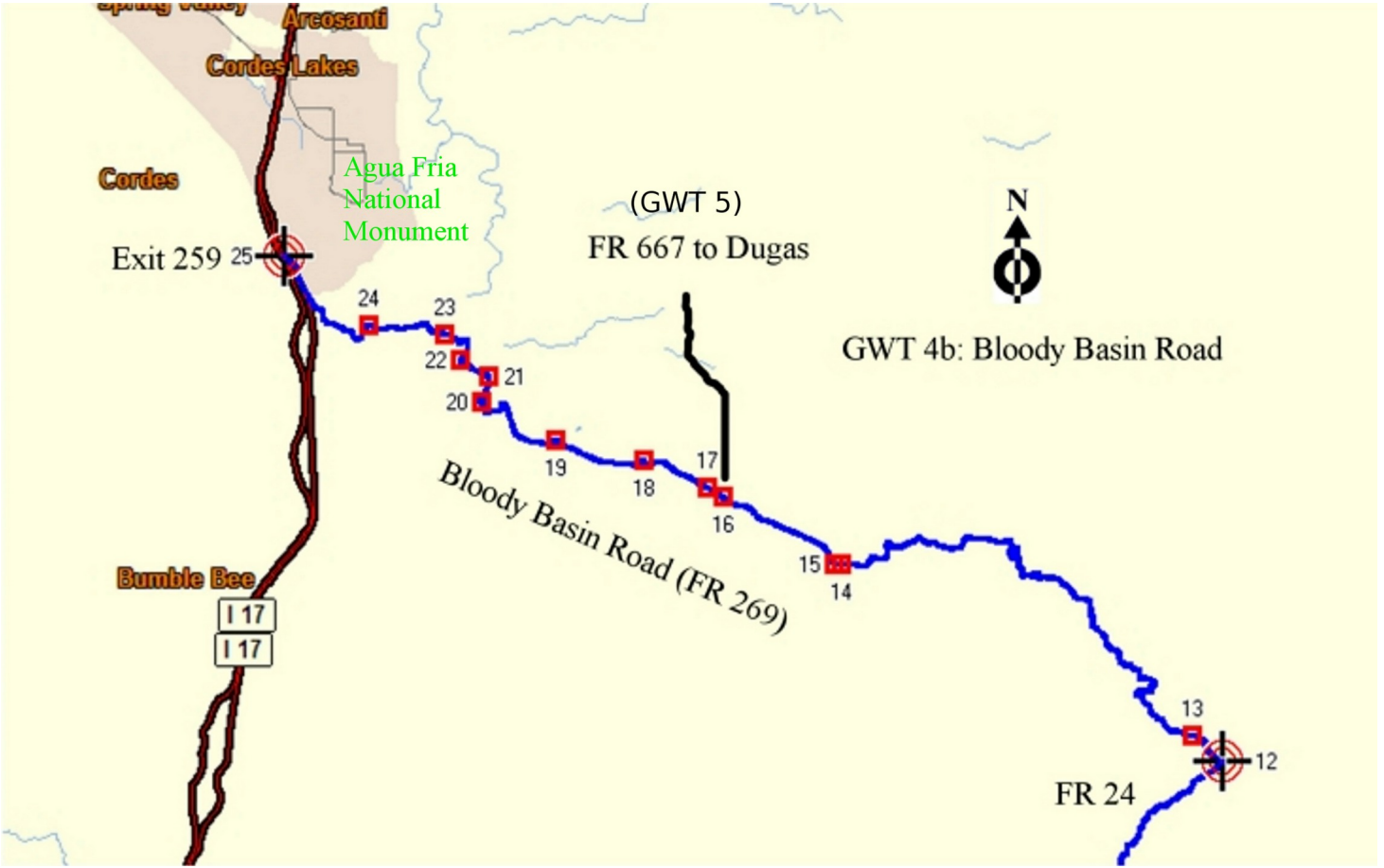
GWT 4a: Cave Creek Road to Bloody Basin Road

4-1			**N 33° 52.6079' W 111° 48.9706'**
2.3 ▼	0.0 ▼		Start trail on Cave Creek Road 2.3 mi north of Ranger Station.
		27.6 ▲	*End trail on Cave Creek Road*
4-2			**N 33° 54.0630' W 111° 49.4361'**
1.5 ▼	2.3 ▼		Pavement ends.
		25.3 ▲	*Pavement begins.*
4-3			**N 33° 54.8379' W 111° 49.0159'**
1.6 ▼	3.8 ▼		Wide, graded, washboard road.
		23.8 ▲	*Wide, graded, washboard road.*
4-4			**N 33° 56.1115' W 111° 49.1623'**
2.1 ▼	5.4 ▼		Bronco Trailhead. Permit required.
		22.2 ▲	*Bronco Trailhead. Permit required.*
4-5			**N 33° 57.3967' W 111° 50.3360'**
1.8 ▼	7.5 ▼		Stay on road
		20.1 ▲	*Stay on road*
4-6			**N 33° 57.9251' W 111° 51.6939'**
0.6 ▼	9.3 ▼		7 Springs Recreation area.
		18.3 ▲	*7 Springs Recreation area.*
4-7			**N 33° 58.2994' W 111° 51.8928'**
0.1 ▼	9.9 ▼		CCC campground.
		17.7 ▲	*CCC campground.*

New River Mountains

4-8			**N 33° 58.3735' W 111° 51.9406'**
3.2 ▼	10.0 ▼		CCC trailhead 4. No services for 60 miles. 4X4 recommended.
		17.6 ▲	*CCC trailhead 4*
4-9			**N 34° 0.5388' W 111° 52.7500'**
1.6 ▼	13.2 ▼		FR 41 on right. Bumpy but maintained.
		14.4 ▲	*FR 41 on left.*
4-10			**N 34° 1.5054' W 111° 52.3545'**
8.9 ▼	14.8 ▼		Campground.
		12.8 ▲	*Campground.*
4-11			**N 34° 6.9926' W 111° 51.0893'**
3.9 ▼	23.7 ▼		Wash in Round Tree Canyon.
		3.9 ▲	*Wash in Round Tree Canyon.*
4-12			**N 34° 9.3425' W 111° 49.2828'**
Arrive	27.6 ▼		Cave Creek Road ends.
		0.0 ▲	*Cave Creek Road begins.*

Authors' Jeep at the intersection of Creek and Bloody Basin Roads.


Arcosanti
Cordes Lakes
Cordes
Agua Fria
National
Monument
(GWT 5)
FR 667 to Dugas
N
GWT 4b: Bloody Basin Road
Exit 259
25
24
23
22
21
20
19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
Bloody Basin Road (FR 269)
Bumble Bee
I 17
I 17
FR 24

GWT 4b: Bloody Basin Road to I-17

4-12			**N 34° 9.3425' W 111° 49.2828'**
0.8 ▼	0.0▼		Turn left on Bloody Basin Rd. to I-17 (or right for Sheep Bridge). *Turn right on Cave Creek Rd. (or go straight for Sheep Bridge).*
4-13		*26.1*▲	**N 34° 9.7220' W 111° 49.8392'**
10.6▼	0.8▼		Campground. FR 269 becomes 9269.
		25.3▲	*9269 becomes FR 269.*
4-14	11.4▼		**N 34° 12.3475' W 111° 56.5526'**
0.1 ▼			Cattle guard.
		14.7▲	*Cattle guard.*
4-15			**N 34° 12.3621' W 111° 56.6887'**
2.4 ▼	11.5▼		Cattle guard.
		14.6▲	*Cattle guard.*
4-16			**N 34° 13.3669' W 111° 58.7936'**
0.3 ▼	13.9▼		Turn off to Dugas on right.
		12.2▲	*Turn off to Dugas on left.*
4-17			**N 34° 13.5103' W 111° 59.1040'**
1.5 ▼	14.2▼		Cattle guard.
		11.9▲	*Cattle guard.*
4-18			**N 34° 13.9343' W 112° 0.3126'**
2.1 ▼	15.7▼		Bear left.
		10.4▲	*Bear right.*
4-19			**N 34° 14.2365' W 112° 1.9966'**
2.1 ▼	17.8▼		Bear left.
		8.3▲	*Bear right.*
4-20			**N 34° 14.8188' W 112° 3.4196'**
0.5 ▼	19.9▼		Rest area.
		6.2▲	*Rest area.*
4-21			**N 34° 15.2078' W 112° 3.2674'**
0.6 ▼	20.4▼		Horseshoe Ranch. Private property.
		5.7▲	*Horseshoe Ranch. Private property.*

4-22			**N 34° 15.4577' W 112° 3.7994'**
1.0 ▼	21.0 ▼		Agua Fria River.
		5.1 ▲	*Agua Fria River.*
4-23			**N 34° 15.8548' W 112° 4.1253'**
1.5 ▼	22.0 ▼		Power lines.
		4.1 ▲	*Power lines.*
4-24			**N 34° 15.9908' W 112° 5.5507'**
2.6 ▼	23.5 ▼		Cattle guard.
		2.6 ▲	*Cattle guard.*
4-25			**N 34° 17.0677' W 112° 7.1698'**
Arrive	26.1 ▼		Exit to I-17.
		0.0 ▲	*Begin trail at Exit 259 on I-17.*

Views along Cave Creek and Bloody Basin Roads

Great Western Trail 5:
Bloody Basin to Dugas to I-17

Although most of this trail is easy, we rate it as difficult because of rock ledges and the climb out of Sycamore Creek onto a sandy bank. The section south of Dugas is remote and we recommend only experienced drivers in a high clearance 4-WD vehicle attempt this trail in company with others.

Fred Dugas, the town's founder, was born in 1871 and came to the area with his father Louis in 1877. The family built their first homestead, "Indian Cabin," before building their second house farther south along Sycamore Creek. After the turn of the century Fred built his last house overlooking the creek.

The ranch had a blacksmith shop, a school, two boarding houses and a post office, which opened in 1925. Many of the historic buildings are still standing, and the ranch remains in the family to this day.

The San Dominique Winery, located at the southeast corner of I-17 and State Highway 169 (Cherry Road – Exit 278), opened in 1978. In 1989 it started a "Fiesta Garlica," and now produces over 65 garlic-related items. You can find more information at its website: www.sandominiquewinery.com.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 5-1: From Bloody Basin Road (FR 269), turn north on FR 677, which is 11.6 miles from I-17 or 14.1 miles from Cave Creek Road (FR 24).

Waypoint 5-18: From I-17, take exit 278 and drive east on FR 732.

Roads Comprising Trail: FR 24 – FR 269 – FR 677 – 171 – FR 68D – FR 732. Note that FR 732 is erroneously shown as FR 372 in the *Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas* and in the GWT section map,

which is available at no charge from the Prescott Ranger districts.

Open months/Best Travel: Year round, but may be impassible during the rainy seasons.

Permits: You need a permit to camp or to park in recreational areas in the Tonto National Forest. You can buy a day permit in stores in the area or online, and buy a yearly permit at a ranger station. You do not need it to drive the trail, to camp outside of the recreation areas, or to drive the portion of the trail in the Prescott National Forest.

Elevation Min/Max: 3881'/5117'

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 32.1 miles.

Travel Time: 4 hours.

Difficulty: Difficult.

Remoteness: 4/4

Services Available: none along the trail. Fuel and supplies are available in Cave Creek or Carefree.

Driving the Trail: To begin at 5-1, enter Bloody Basin Road at Exit 259 on I-17, drive east for 11.6 miles to FR 677 and turn north. The road at this point is rocky and rutted, but easy to follow in the grasslands. Bear left at waypoints 5-2 and 5-3. At 5-4 there is a Surveyor's marker from 1935.

You will pass through several gates on your way to Dugas; leave them (open or closed) as you find them. The road is not maintained and deteriorates as you approach 5-9.

Between waypoints 5-9 and 5-10 there is a short descent over rock ledges to Sycamore Creek. This is a difficult section of the trail and pin-striping is likely in its narrowest tracts. You will need a high clearance 4-WD, vehicle to exit the riverbed onto the soft sand. If you have not already done so, air down your tires before beginning this section of the trail.

Turn left at 5-10 onto 171, Dugas Road. This road is maintained and takes you though the town where you will see many of its original buildings. Turn right at 5-12, FR 68D. There is a sign warning not to enter this road when wet or risk a fine.

This is a primitive road but easy to drive as it passes through grazing land. Besides being home to horses, donkeys and cattle, it is where the deer and antelope play.

Turn left at 5-15. This appears as FR 372 on some maps, but on the Prescott National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map and on the road itself, it is FR 732.

The road then meanders through a riverbed until it passes through an inhabited area and exits at I-17.

Trail Information: Bradshaw Ranger District, Cave Creek Ranger District (Appendix B).

Restrictions: None at this time. Check websites for further information.

Map References:

Great Western Trail, Prescott National Forest Section.

USGS:

1:24,000: Brooklyn Peak, Dugas, Arnold Mesa, Middle Verde.

1:100,000: Payson

1:250,000: Prescott (AZ), Holbrook (AZ), Mesa (AZ)

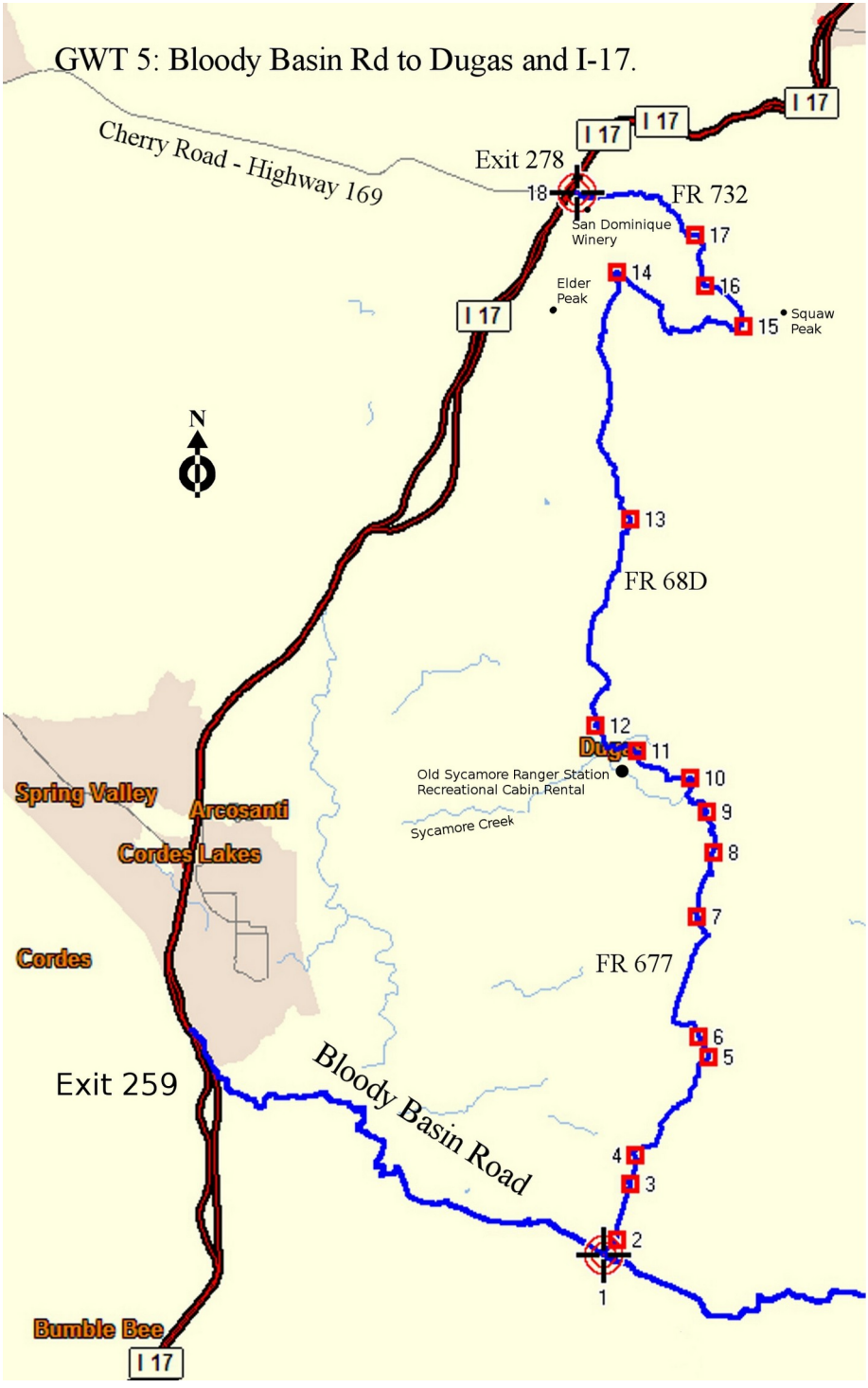
Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 40, 74.

USDA Forest Service Map: Tonto National Forest; Prescott National Forest; Prescott National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map.

Donkey or Mule?

5-4: Surveyor's Marker


GWT 5: Bloody Basin Rd to Dugas and I-17.
Cherry Road - Highway 169
Exit 278
I 17
I 17
I 17
I 17
18
FR 732
San Dominique Winery
17
14
16
15
Squaw Peak
Elder Peak
N
13
FR 68D
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
Old Sycamore Ranger Station
Recreational Cabin Rental
Sycamore Creek
Spring Valley
Arcosanti
Cordes Lakes
Cordes
FR 677
Exit 259
Bloody Basin Road
Bumble Bee
I 17

GWT 5: Bloody Basin to Dugas to I-17

5-1			**N 34° 13.3637' W 111° 58.7924'**
0.4 ▼	0.0 ▼		Enter FR 677 for Dugas from Bloody Basin Road.
		32.1 ▲	*Trail ends at Bloody Basin Road. Rght for I-17, left for Cave Creek.*
5-2			**N 34° 13.6078' W 111° 58.5447'**
1.1 ▼	0.4 ▼		Bear left.
		31.7 ▲	*Bear right.*
5-3			**N 34° 14.5124' W 111° 58.2527'**
0.6 ▼	1.5 ▼		Bear left at "y".
		30.6 ▲	*Bear right.*
5-4			**N 34° 14.9991' W 111° 58.1552'**
2.6 ▼	2.1 ▼		Surveyor's marker on left.
		30.0 ▲	*Surveyor's marker on right.*
5-5			**N 34° 16.6062' W 111° 56.6728'**
0.5 ▼	4.7 ▼		FR 605 on right. Stay on FR 677.
		27.4 ▲	*FR 605 on left. Stay on FR 677.*
5-6			**N 34° 16.9401' W 111° 56.8801'**
3.0 ▼	5.2 ▼		GWT on right.
		27.0 ▲	*Bear left.*
5-7			**N 34° 18.9355' W 111° 56.9055'**
1.4 ▼	8.2 ▼		9601D on left. Bear right on FR 677. Sign for Dugas 6 miles.
		24.0 ▲	*9601D on right. Bear left on FR 677 Sign for Dugas 6 miles.*
5-8			**N 34° 19.9941' W 111° 56.5678'**
0.9 ▼	9.5 ▼		Open & close gate on FR 677. FR 677A on right.
		22.6 ▲	*Open & close gate on FR 677. FR 677A on left.*
5-9			**N 34° 20.6610' W 111° 56.7267'**
1.0 ▼	10.4 ▼		Begin difficult descent to river.
		21.7 ▲	*End of difficult climb from river.*

5-10			**N 34° 21.2024' W 111° 57.0498'**
1.5 ▼	11.4▼		Turn left onto FR 68D.
		20.7▲	*Turn right onto FR 677.*
5-11			**N 34° 21.6458' W 111° 58.1625'**
1.1 ▼	13.0▼		FR 68F on left. Stay on Dugas Road.
		19.2▲	*FR 68F on right. Bear left.*
5-12			**N 34° 22.0833' W 111° 58.9609'**
4.5 ▼	14.1▼		Turn right onto 68D. Closed when wet
		18.1▲	*Turn left on Dugas Road at stop. Wide, gravel, washboard.*
5-13			**N 34° 25.4795' W 111° 58.2702'**
5.2 ▼	18.5▼		Bear left.
		13.6▲	*Road on left. Stay right.*
5-14			**N 34° 29.5232' W 111° 58.5223'**
3.3 ▼	23.7▼		FR 9602A on left. Stay on 68D.
		8.4▲	*FR 9602A on right. Stay on 68D.*
5-15			**N 34° 28.6332' W 111° 55.9574'**
1.2 ▼	27.0▼		Turn left onto FR 732.
		5.1▲	*Turn right on FR 68D for Squaw Peak Road/Dugas Road.*
5-16			**N 34° 29.3176' W 111° 56.7544'**
1.1 ▼	28.2▼		Road follows and enters river bed numerous times.
		3.9▲	*Road follows and enters river bed numerous times.*
5-17			**N 34° 30.1519' W 111° 56.9554'**
2.8 ▼	29.3▼		Cattle guard.
		2.8▲	*Cattle guard.*
5-18			**N 34° 30.8321' W 111° 59.3348'**
Arrive	32.1▼		Exit at I-17.Follow directions for Flagstaff, Phoenix, or Prescott.
		0.0▲	*Exit I-17 at 278. Go east on primitive road FR 732 to Dugas.*

Narrow Passage

Friendly Inhabitant

Climbing out of the riverbed

Warning at beginning of trail

Old house in Dugas

Great Western Trail 6:
Mingus Mountain

The Mingus Mountain trail is a moderate bridge between two difficult trails, GWT 5, Dugas, and GWT 7, Smiley Rock. There is a campsite and recreation area at its entrance off US 89-Alt, right after a warning that the road is "not suited for wet weather travel or low clearance vehicles." Warnings similar to this appear along many of the off-road trails in the state. Cars whose owners ignored them lie rusted and bullet-ridden in ravines.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 6-1: From I-17, exit 278, drive west on Highway 169 to milepost 14, and turn north onto FR 96.

Waypoint 6-13: From Jerome, drive south on Highway 89A to milepost 386 and turn left into the Mingus Recreation Area.

Roads Comprising Trail: FR 96 – FR 75 – FR 9004B – FR 132 – FR 413.

Open months/Best Travel: Spring-summer-fall. There may be snow on the mountain in the winter.

Permits: None.

Elevation Min/Max: 4465'/7551'

Total Mileage: 25 miles.

Paved Mileage: 2.3 miles.

Unpaved Mileage: 22.7 miles.

Travel Time: 2 hr. 30 minutes.

Difficulty: moderate.

Remoteness: 3/4

Services Available: none along trail. Food and lodging are available in Jerome, Clarkdale, and Cottonwood. Fuel is available only in Clarkdale and Cottonwood.

Driving the Trail: Aside from a few steep climbs and rutted roads, this trail should not be difficult for a high clearance SUV during the dry summer season.

Starting at 6-1, FR 96 at milepost 14 on Highway 169, the narrow dirt trail runs through grasslands and is a popular camping area. Turn right onto CR 75, Hackberry Hill Road, at 6-3. The road here is wide, gravel, washboard and partially paved.

Turn left at 6-6 onto Forest Mine Road, 9004B, where the pavement ends. At 6-7, bear left onto FR 132 at the Sutton sign in the wash.

Waypoint 6-8 is in an area recovering from a fire. Turn left at 6-10 onto FR 413, and at 6-12, turn right to enter the Mingus Recreation area or turn left to exit the trail at 6-13. At the exit, turn left for Prescott, right for Jerome, or continue starlight ahead to begin Great Western Trail 7, Smiley Rock. This trail is described in the next chapter.

Trail Information: Verde Ranger District (Appendix B).

Restrictions: None at this time. Check online or with the Verde Ranger Station before embarking.

Map References:

Great Western Trail, Prescott National Forest Section.

USGS:

1:24,000: Cherry, Cottonwood, Hickey Mountain.

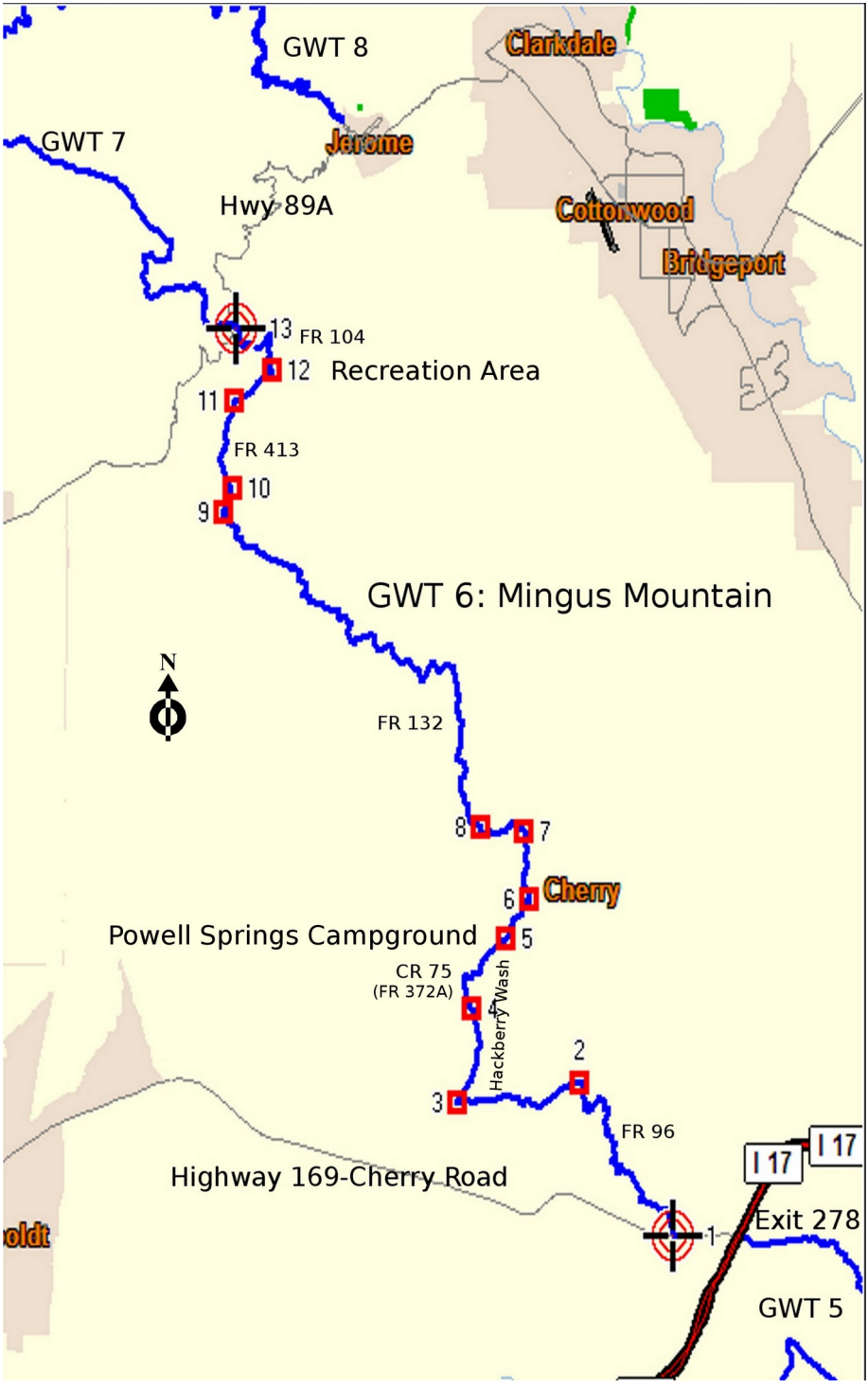
1:100,000: Prescott.

1:250,000: Prescott (AZ)

Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 40, 74.

USDA Forest Service Map: Prescott National Forest; Prescott National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map.


GWT 8
Clarkdale
GWT 7
Jerome
Hwy 89A
Cottonwood
Bridgeport
13
FR 104
12
Recreation Area
11
FR 413
10
9
GWT 6: Mingus Mountain
N
FR 132
8
7
6
Cherry
Powell Springs Campground
5
CR 75
(FR 372A)
4
Hackberry Wash
2
3
FR 96
I 17
I 17
Highway 169-Cherry Road
1
Exit 278
GWT 5

GWT 6: Mingus Mountain

6-1			**N 34° 30.8832' W 112° 0.7127'**
3.9 ▼	0.0 ▼		Begin GWT on FR 96, milepost 14 on Highway 169, Cherry Road.
		25.0 ▲	*Exit onto Hwy 169, Cherry Road. Turn left for I-17, right for Prescott*
6-2			**N 34° 32.8213' W 112° 2.5036'**
2.4 ▼	3.9 ▼		9604S on right. Bear left.
		21.1 ▲	*9604s on left. Bear right.*
6-3			**N 34° 32.5741' W 112° 4.7803'**
1.5 ▼	6.3 ▼		Turn right onto Hackberry Hill Road, Road 75.
		18.8 ▲	*Turn left onto FR 96.*
6-4			**N 34° 33.7643' W 112° 4.5206'**
1.5 ▼	7.8 ▼		Pavement begins.
		17.2 ▲	*Pavement ends, Hackberry Hill Rd*
6-5			**N 34° 34.6630' W 112° 3.8723'**
0.8 ▼	9.3 ▼		Powell Springs Campground on left. FR 372A.
		15.7 ▲	*Powell Springs Campground on right. FR 372A.*
6-6			**N 34° 35.1492' W 112° 3.4298'**
1.1 ▼	10.1 ▼		Turn left onto Forest Mine Road, FR 132. Pavement ends.
		15.0 ▲	*Turn right at stop sign for Dewey. Pavement begins.*
6-7			**N 34° 36.0327' W 112° 3.5349'**
0.9 ▼	11.2 ▼		Bear left onto FR 132 at Sutton sign.
		13.9 ▲	*Sign for Sutton 9605E on left in riverbed. Bear right onto 9004B.*
6-8			**N 34° 36.0675' W 112° 4.3581'**
8.9 ▼	12.1 ▼		FR 9004A on left. Bear right.
		12.9 ▲	*FR 9004A on right Go straight.*

6-9			**N 34° 40.0889' W 112° 9.1733'**
0.4 ▼	21.0 ▼		Straight on FR 132. FR 105 on left.
		4.0 ▲	*Straight on FR132. FR 105 on right*
6-10			**N 34° 40.3875' W 112° 9.0339'**
1.4 ▼	21.4 ▼		Turn left onto FR 413
		3.6 ▲	*Turn right onto 132.*
6-11			**N 34° 41.5076' W 112° 8.9696'**
0.8 ▼	22.8 ▼		Pack trail on left. Bear right.
		2.2 ▲	*Pack trail on right. Bear left.*
6-12			**N 34° 41.8904' W 112° 8.2890'**
1.4 ▼	23.6 ▼		Turn left to exit trail, turn right for . the Recreation Area
		1.4 ▲	*Turn right for Cherry. Recreation Area FR 104 straight ahead.*
6-13			**N 34° 42.4342' W 112° 8.9399'**
Arrive	25.0 ▼		Exit onto Highway 89A. Turn left for Prescott, right for Jerome.
		0.0 ▲	*Milepost 336. Mingus Recreation Area entrance.*

Signs and warnings at the entrance
to Mingus Mountain

Great Western Trail 7:
Smiley Rock

Smiley Rock, or Martin Canyon, is a difficult and remote leg of the trail, however an experienced driver in a high clearance, 4-WD vehicle with a spotter to guide him through the narrow, rocky spots will have little difficulty. If you have doubts about your ability or your vehicle's capability, bypass this section and continue your trip north from Jerome on Great Western Trail 8. If you decide to visit Smiley Rock, do not go alone.

Ample picnicking and camping sites are available on this trail, starting at Potato Patch Campground just off the highway at waypoint 1. The Woodchute Wilderness comprises most of the area enclosed by the trail, and is popular among hikers.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 7-1: from Jerome drive 4 miles south on Highway 89A and turn north at milepost 336, across from GWT 6, Mingus Mountain.

Waypoint 7-13: Drive 7.7 miles north from Jerome on Yavapai County Road 72, Great Western Trail 8.

Open months/Best Travel: year-round, but check weather conditions.

Roads Comprising Trail: FR 106 – FR 106D – FR 9710W – FR 103 – FR 9701V – FR 318A

Permits: none at this time.

Elevation Min/Max: 5282'/7226'

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 15.1 miles for Martin Canyon plus 8 miles to return to Jerome along the Jerome Perkinsville Road.

Travel Time: 2 hours 45 minutes for the drive through Martin Canyon. One hour for the drive to Jerome.

Difficulty: Difficult.

Remoteness: 3/4

Services Available: None along the trail. Food and lodging are available in Jerome. You can get fuel and other supplies in Clarkdale and Cottonwood.

Driving the Trail: Begin at 7-1 at milepost 336 on Highway 89A. Once through the rest area, take FR 106 on the right. A parking area for the Woodchute Wilderness is at 7-3. Bear left onto FR 106D.

Bear right onto FR 9710W at 7-5. The area straight ahead is closed to motor vehicles.

The most difficult portion of the trail, Martin Canyon, begins at 7-6 and ends at 7-11. In this section you will cross rocky washes and boulder fields in the canyon, and tight brush will pinstripe your car. Do not drive this trail if there is heavy rain forecast, since there is a real danger of flash floods.

Smiley Rock is on the north side of the trail at 7-9.

At 7-11, turn right at the "T" and then left onto FR 9701V. Turn right on FR 318A under the power lines. This shelf road winds around the north face of Woodchute Mountain and is part of a 26-mile narrow gauge railroad bed (rails now removed) with 186 curves that was known as the crookedest line in the world.

The trail ends at 7-13. Turn right to go to Jerome or left to go to Perkinsville and Williams on the Jerome-Perkinsville Road (GWT 8).

Trail Information: Verde Ranger District (Appendix B).

Restrictions: none now. Check online and at the Ranger station for recent changes and weather conditions.

Map References:

Great Western Trail, Prescott National Forest Section.

USGS:

1:24,000: Hickey Mountain, Munds Draw.

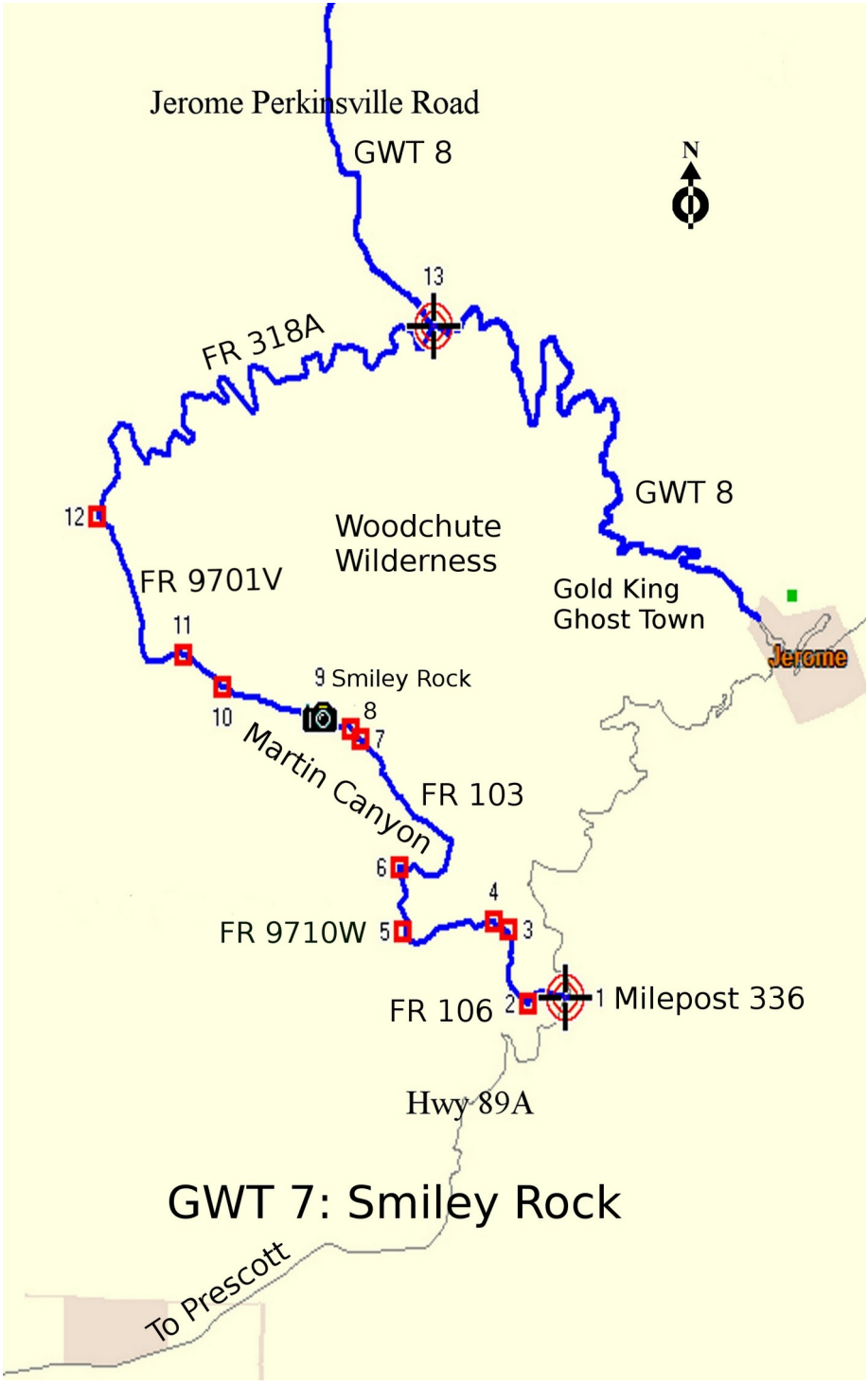
1:100,000: Prescott

1:250,000; Prescott (AZ)

Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 40, 68, 74.

USDA Forest Service Map: Prescott National Forest; Prescott National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map.


Jerome Perkinsville Road
GWT 8
N
13
FR 318A
GWT 8
12
Woodchute
Wilderness
FR 9701V
Gold King
Ghost Town
Jerome
11
9 Smiley Rock
10
8
7
Martin Canyon
FR 103
6
4
FR 9710W
5
3
FR 106
2
1 Milepost 336
Hwy 89A
GWT 7: Smiley Rock
To Prescott

GWT 7: Smiley Rock

7-1			**N 34º 42.4399' W 112º 8.9658'**
0.4 ▼	0.0 ▼		Enter Smiley Rock Trail from milepost 336 on Hwy 89A.
		14.9 ▲	*Exit trail onto Highway 89A. Turn right for Prescott, left for Jerome.*
7-2			**N 34º 42.4027' W 112º 9.3658'**
0.7 ▼	0.4 ▼		Rest Area. FR 106 on right.
		14.5 ▲	*Rest Area.*
7-3			**N 34º 42.9174' W 112º 9.5725'**
0.2 ▼	1.0 ▼		FR 102 Woodchute Wilderness on right. Bear left on FR 106D.
		13.8 ▲	*FR 102 Woodchute Wilderness on left. Bear right onto FR 106.*
7-4			**N 34º 42.9785' W 112º 9.7152'**
1.0 ▼	1.3 ▼		Gate.
		13.7 ▲	*Gate.*
7-5			**N 34º 42.9018' W 112º 10.6590'**
0.6 ▼	2.2 ▼		Bear right onto FR 9710W. Area ahead closed to motor vehicles.
		12.7 ▲	*Bear left onto 106D.*
7-6			**N 34º 43.3429' W 112º 10.6929'**
2.0 ▼	2.8 ▼		Turn right onto FR 103.
		12.2 ▲	*Turn left onto FR 106.*
7-7			**N 34º 44.2393' W 112º 11.1126'**
0.1 ▼	4.8 ▼		Go straight. FR 104 on right.
		10.1 ▲	*Go straight. FR 104 on left.*
7-8			**N 34º 44.3147' W 112º 11.2170'**
0.3 ▼	4.9 ▼		**Sharp** right turn.
		10.0 ▲	***Sharp** left turn.*
7-9			**N 34º 44.3901' W 112º 11.5343'**
1.0 ▼	5.3 ▼		Smiley Rock on right.
		9.7 ▲	*Smiley Rock on left.*

7-10			**N 34º 44.6085' W 112º 12.5464'**
0.5 ▼	6.3▼		Tight brush. Stay on trail.
		8.7▲	*Tight brush. Stay on trail.*
7-11			**N 34º 44.8271' W 112º 12.9550'**
1.7 ▼	6.8▼		Turn right at "T" then left onto FR 9701V.
		8.2▲	*Turn left at "T" onto FR 103.*
7-12			**N 34º 45.7808' W 112º 13.8490'**
6.5 ▼	8.4▼		Turn right under power lines onto FR 318A.
		6.5▲	*Turn left under power lines onto FR 9701V.*
7-13			**N 34º 47.1049' W 112º 10.3399'**
Arrive	14.9▼		End of trail. Turn left for Perkinsville, right for Jerome.
		0.0▲	*Turn left on FR 318A.*

7-9: Smiley Rock and views of the trail

Great Western Trail 8:
Jerome to Interstate 40

This 60-mile long section is the longest leg of the Great Western Trail. It starts in the high desert of the Central Highlands and ends in the Colorado Plateau Region, traversing forests of cedar, juniper, and piñon pine trees in the Prescott and Kaibab National Forests.

It is accessible to most vehicles, although travelers in low clearance vehicles should bypass FR 11 and FR 354 since these roads are unimproved and are not maintained.

The Gold King Mine and Ghost Town is just outside Jerome, and for a small fee you can see some of Arizona's mining history and assorted vintage automobiles. The Jerome State Historic Park with its magnificent Douglas Mansion is also worth a visit.

On the switchbacks north of Jerome is "First View," where you can get a panoramic view of the San Francisco Peaks in Flagstaff and the surrounding cites.

You can camp in the White Horse Recreation Area and fish for trout and channel catfish in its lake. Sycamore Point and the Overland Trail are interesting stops along this trail.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 8-1: Start at the Jerome Firehouse, Yavapai County Road 72.

Waypoint 8-26: Turn south onto Garland Prairie Road, Exit 167 off I-40.

Roads Comprising Trail: From Jerome: Yavapai County Road (YCR) 72 – YCR 70 – FR 354 – FR 105 – FR 11 – FR 110 – FR 109 – FR 141 – Garland Prairie Road.

Open months/Best Travel: Year-round, but sections may be closed due to winter weather conditions.

Permits: None needed at this time.
Elevation Min/Max: 3818'/7005'
Total Mileage: 59.3 miles.
Paved Mileage: 1.3 miles.
Unpaved Mileage: 58 miles.
Travel Time: 4 hours.
Difficulty: moderate.
Remoteness: 1-3/4.
Services Available: none alone trail. Supplies are available in Williams, Jerome, Clarkdale and Cottonwood.

Driving the Trail: It begins at the Firehouse in Jerome and heads north on Yavapai County Road 72. This section is either paved or graded and is open to all vehicles, but it is tortuous and narrow in spots. Exercise caution when entering blind curves.

The entrance to Great Western Trail 7, Smiley Rock, is at 8-2. In about 8 miles you enter YCR 70. Follow this wide, maintained road to FR 354 (8-6) and turn right. This is an unimproved road unsuited for low clearance vehicles.

At 8-8 you will pass the entrance to the Golden Buckskin Quarry (closed to visitors) before entering a rough section of mountain curves and grades. A ledge in the middle of the trail above the quarry requires careful wheel placement.

The road becomes easier at 8-11, and at 8-13 turn right onto FR 105. Stay on this road until 8-17, where you turn left onto FR 11 and enter a heavily forested area.

At 8-19 turn right onto FR 110. This is the beginning of gravel roads open to all vehicles.

If you continue south on FR 110 you will arrive at Sycamore Point (you can also stay on FR 105 and then turn south on FR 110 instead of turning onto FR 11 at 8-17). This is a scenic area, and the canyon's red sandstone formations are worth the detour. There is room to camp near the rim of the canyon.

At 8-20 turn left onto FR 109. The Overland Road Historic Trail crosses FR 109 at the Pomeroy Tank area. The U.S. Army built this road in 1863 during the Hassayampa Gold Rush to connect the goldfields near Prescott with Flagstaff Spring. Immigrants used this road until 1882, when the railroad across Northern Arizona replaced it.

At 8-23 turn left onto FR 141 and follow this to I-40 and the end of the trail. Along both sides of this road are the remnants of the

railroad grade the Saginaw Lumber Company used in the 1800s.

Trail Information: Verde Ranger District, Williams Ranger District (Appendix B).

Restrictions: none at this time.

Map References:

Great Western Trail, Prescott National Forest Section.

USGS:

1:24,000: Clarkdale, Munds Draw, Perkinsville, May Tank Pocket, White Horse Lake, Davenport Hill, Sitgreaves Mountain.

1:100,000: Williams, Prescott.

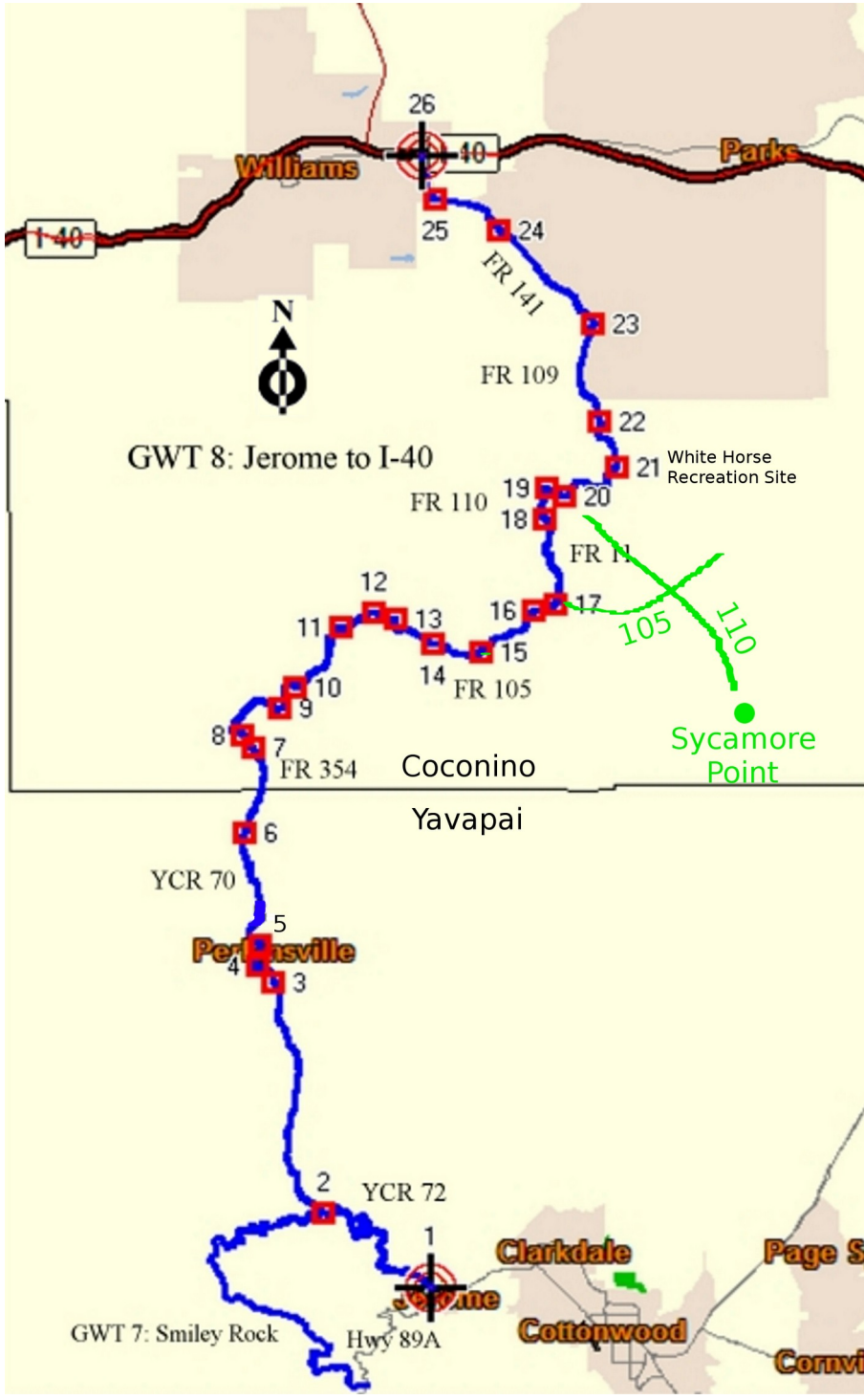
1:250,000: Prescott (AZ), Williams (AZ)

Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 34, 68.

USDA Forest Service Map: Prescott National Forest; Prescott National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map; Kaibab National Forest Williams and Tusayan Ranger Districts; Great Western Trail Kaibab National Forest.

Thawing out the tent after 20-degree night near White Horse Lake


GWT 8: Jerome to I-40
N
Williams
Parks
I-40
FR 141
FR 109
FR 110
FR 105
FR 354
YCR 70
YCR 72
White Horse
Recreation Site
Sycamore
Point
Coconino
Yavapai
Clarkdale
Cottonwood
Page Sp
Cornvil
Hwy 89A
GWT 7: Smiley Rock
26
25
24
23
22
21
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12
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6
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4
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2
1
105
110

GWT 8: Jerome to I-40

8-1			**N 34° 45.1106' W 112° 7.0150'**
7.7 ▼	0.0 ▼		Start at Jerome Fire House. Yavapai County Road 72.
		59.2 ▲	*End of trail. Turn right for Prescott on 89A, left for Cottonwood.*
8-2			**N 34° 47.1064' W 112° 10.3403'**
8.0 ▼	7.7 ▼		Smiley Rock Trail on left.
		51.5 ▲	*Smiley Rock Trail on right.*
8-3			**N 34° 53.2969' W 112° 11.8692'**
0.7 ▼	15.7 ▼		Perkinsville Road on left. Go straight . on Yavapai County Road 70
		43.6 ▲	*Perkinsville Road on right. Go straight on Yavapai County Rd 72*
8-4			**N 34° 53.7499' W 112° 12.3478'**
1.2 ▼	16.4 ▼		Turn left.
		42.8 ▲	*Turn right. Perkins Ranch straight ahead*
8-5			**N 34° 54.2951' W 112° 12.2994'**
4.2 ▼	17.6 ▼		Go straight.
		41.6 ▲	*Go straight.*
8-6			**N 34° 57.3005' W 112° 12.7674'**
2.8 ▼	21.8 ▼		Bear right onto FR 354.
		37.4 ▲	*Go straight on Yavapai County 70*
8-7			**N 34° 59.5691' W 112° 12.5216'**
0.5 ▼	24.6 ▼		Bear left.
		34.6 ▲	*Continue on main trail.*
8-8			**N 34° 59.9305' W 112° 12.8203'**
2.5 ▼	25.1 ▼		Quarry on right, bear left. Begin mountain curves and grades.
		34.1 ▲	*Quarry on left, bear right. End of mountain curves and grades.*
8-9			**N 35° 0.6152' W 112° 11.6830'**
1.2 ▼	27.6 ▼		Entering Kaibab Forest.
		31.6 ▲	*Entering Prescott Forest.*

8-10			**N 35° 1.2156' W 112° 11.2041'**
2.7 ▼	28.8 ▼		Cattle guard.
		30.5 ▲	*Cattle guard.*
8-11			**N 35° 2.7845' W 112° 9.8104'**
1.2 ▼	31.4 ▼		End curves, mountain grades.
		27.8 ▲	*Begin curves, mountain grades.*
8-12			**N 35° 3.2151' W 112° 8.7674'**
0.7 ▼	32.6 ▼		Bear right. Stay on FR 354.
		26.7 ▲	*Bear left. Stay on FR 354.*
8-13			**N 35° 3.0160' W 112° 8.1195'**
1.6 ▼	33.3 ▼		Turn right on FR 105.
		25.9 ▲	*End FR 105. Turn left on FR 354.*
8-14			**N 35° 2.3723' W 112° 6.9473'**
1.6 ▼	34.9 ▼		FR 125 on right. Stay on FR 105.
		24.4 ▲	*FR 125 on left. Stay on FR 105.*
8-15			**N 35° 2.1529' W 112° 5.4431'**
2.2 ▼	36.4 ▼		Bear left on FR 105. FR 127 on right.
		22.8 ▲	*Stay on FR 105.*
8-16			**N 35° 3.2346' W 112° 3.7983'**
0.7 ▼	38.6 ▼		FR 138 on left. Stay on 105.
		20.6 ▲	*FR 138 on right. Stay on 105.*
8-17			**N 35° 3.4150' W 112° 3.1507**
3.1 ▼	39.3 ▼		Turn left on FR 11.
		19.9 ▲	*Turn right on FR 105.*
8-18			**N 35° 5.7214' W 112° 3.4865'**
1.0 ▼	42.4 ▼		FR 11H on left heavily forested area.
		16.8 ▲	*FR 11H on right.*
			Heavily forested area.
8-19			**N 35° 6.5611' W 112° 3.4166'**
0.6 ▼	43.4 ▼		Turn right onto FR 110.
		15.8 ▲	*Turn left onto FR 11.*
8-20			**N 35° 6.2924' W 112° 2.8899'**
2.3 ▼	44.0 ▼		Turn left onto FR 109.
		15.2 ▲	*Turn right onto FR 110.*
8-21			**N 35° 7.0875' W 112° 1.2339'**
1.7 ▼	46.3 ▼		White Horse Recreation Site on right.
		12.9 ▲	*White Horse Recreation Site on left.*

8-22			**N 35° 8.3290' W 112° 1.7423'**
3.3 ▼	48.0 ▼		Stay on FR 109.
		11.2 ▲	*Continue for White Horse Lake.*
8-23			**N 35° 10.9430' W 112° 1.9393'**
4.1 ▼	51.3 ▼		Turn left onto FR 141.
		7.9 ▲	*Turn right onto FR 109.*
8-24			**N 35° 13.4552' W 112° 4.8837'**
2.4 ▼	55.4 ▼		Continue on FR 141.
		3.8 ▲	*Turn left onto FR 141 at fork.*
8-25			**N 35° 14.3032' W 112° 6.8961'**
1.4 ▼	57.8 ▼		Right over RR crossing to Garland Prairie Road. Pavement begins.
		1.4 ▲	*Turn left on FR 141 after railroad crossing. Pavement ends.*
8-26			**N 35° 15.4537' W 112° 7.2947'**
Arrive	59.2 ▼		Trail ends at I-40. Go west for Williams, east for Flagstaff.
		0.0 ▲	*At exit 167 on I-40, turn south onto Garland Prairie Road.*

Sycamore Point

Views along the Trail

GOLDEN BUCKSKIN
-DANGER-
OPEN PIT MINE AREA
- ENTERING AMERICAN SANDSTONE OPERATED MINE SITES REGULATED BY U.S. FOREST SERVICE AND MSHA Mine Safety and Health Administration)
- AUTHORIZED PERSONS AND VEHICLES ONLY
- FOR YOUR SAFETY MSHA REQUIRES PERSONS ENTERING ACTIVE MINES TO BE TRAINED MINERS OR ESCORTED BY A TRAINED MINER.
- TO ESTABLISH AUTHORIZED ENTRANCE, PLEASE CALL 520/636-4454 OR VISIT AMERICAN SANDSTONE MAIN OFFICE AT 2600 N. HWY 89, CHINO VALLEY, AZ.
AMERICAN SANDSTONE
SPEED
LIMIT
15

Great Western Trail 9:
Interstate 40 to US 180

This trail travels through the volcanic fields that surround Sitgreaves Mountain and Kendrick Peak, which are centers of silicic volcanism. Here you will see many rounded cinder cones (a small, cone-shaped volcano formed by the buildup of ash and cinders around a volcanic vent) as you travel over the Kaibab plateau.

Before starting this leg of the GWT, visit Williams, the "Gateway to the Grand Canyon." Apart from excellent food and lodging, it offers wild west entertainment, including the annual spring horseback ride to Phoenix by the Bill Williams Mountain Men, barbecues, arts and crafts shows, shootouts by the Outlaws from the Cataract Creek Gang, and the High Country Warbirds Air Display. Events are scheduled during the various seasons, and information about them is available at the Visitor Center at Second and Railroad or online at www.williamschamber.com.

The highlight of this trail is Laws Spring, a water hole with Indian petroglyphs. During his 1858 Expedition, Lt. Edward Beale used camels to carry supplies to a crew of men forging a road to California through the wilderness. Beale found fame by bringing the animals into the American southwest, and the saga, more myth than reality, is described in George Stammerjohn's article, "The Mythical Fort Tejon 'Camel Corps'" at the Fort Tejon Historical Association site: http://www.forttejon.org/camel.html. The "Laws Spring" lettering on a rock at the site is allegedly the work of a tombstone engraver who was part of the expedition.

Thousands of travelers, from cattlemen to immigrants, used this road until the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad arrived in the 1880s.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 9-1: Exit 167, Circle Pines Road, on I-40, then drive north on Route 66.

Waypoint 9-30: Turn south on FR 144 from Highway 180, 13 miles east of Valle, between mileposts 252 and 253.

Roads Comprising Trail: Historic Rte 66 – FR 74 – FR 141 – FR 730 – FR 115 – FR 736 – FR 87 – FR 87E – FR 9161B – FR 9153H – FR 350 (354) Note: FR numbers change often on this trail.

Open months/Best Travel: year-round unless snow or rain forces a temporary closure.

Permits: none at this time.

Elevation Min/Max: 6279'/7210'

Total Mileage: 34.4 miles.

Paved Mileage: 7.4 miles.

Unpaved Mileage: 27 miles.

Travel Time: 3 hours 15 minutes.

Difficulty: moderate

Remoteness: 3/4

Services Available: none along trail. Fuel, food and lodging are available at Valle and Flagstaff at the north end of the trail, and at Williams and Flagstaff at the south of the trail. You can also get fuel and some supplies at Parks, a small town on Historic Route 66.

Driving the Trail: This trail starts east of Williams, at Exit 167, Circle Pines Road, off I-40. The road is paved for 7.4 miles and then is intermittently improved gravel or improved dirt through its entire length. Parts of it may be impassable during the monsoon season.

To visit Parks, turn right at 9-4 and drive 6 miles on Route 66. To continue the GWT, turn left onto Coconino County 74 and stay on this graded road to 9-9, where you turn right onto FR 141. Turn left onto FR 730 at 9-10, and at 9-12, bear left onto FR 115.

The turn-off to Laws Spring and the Beale Wagon Trail, FR 2030, is 0.69 miles from 9-14.

Stay on FR 115 to 9-17, where you turn right onto FR 736, which becomes FR 87 at 9-18. Turn onto FR 87E at 9-25, and at 9-26 turn right under the power lines onto FR 9161B.

At 9-29 bear left onto FR 9153H. A GWT marker is on the right. Exit FR 350 to Highway 180. FR 350 is shown as FR 354 on the information board at the exit, however FR 354 is actually located in GWT 8, Jerome to Williams, between waypoints 6 and 13.

At Highway 180 turn left for Valle and Williams, turn right for Flagstaff, or go straight to begin the Great Western Trail 10.

Trail Information: Williams Ranger District, Prescott National

Forest (Appendix B).

Restrictions: none.

Map References:

USGS:

1:24,000: Sitgreaves Mountain, Squaw Mountain, Hubble Tank, Ebert Mt.

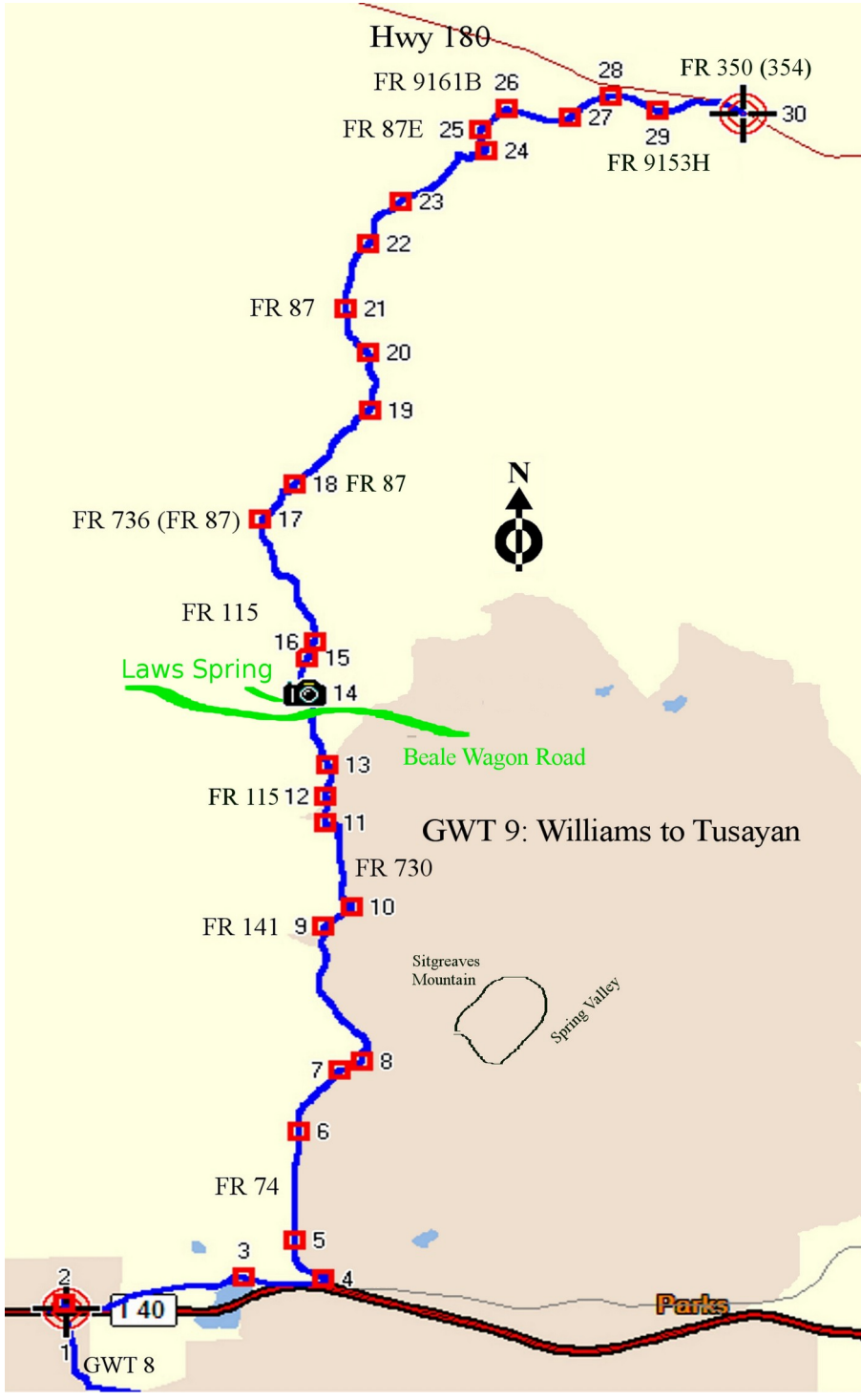
1:100,000: Cameron, Valle, Williams

1:250,000: Williams (AZ), Flagstaff (AZ)

Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 34, 68.

USDA Forest Service Map: Kaibab National Forest Williams and Tusayan Ranger Districts, Great Western Trail Kaibab National Forest


Hwy 180
FR 9161B
26
28
FR 350 (354)
FR 87E
25
27
30
24
29
FR 9153H
23
22
FR 87
21
20
19
18 FR 87
FR 736 (FR 87)
17
N
FR 115
16
15
Laws Spring
14
Beale Wagon Road
13
FR 115
12
11
GWT 9: Williams to Tusayan
FR 730
10
FR 141
9
Sitgreaves
Mountain
Spring Valley
8
7
6
FR 74
5
3
4
2
I 40
Parks
1
GWT 8

GWT 9: Williams to Tusayan

9-1			**N 35° 15.5304' W 112° 7.2965'**
0.1 ▼	0.0▼		Begin trail from Circle Pines Road, exit 167 on I-40.
		34.5▲	*Circle Pines Road to I-40. Go west for Williams, east for Flagstaff.*
9-2			**N 35° 15.6298' W 112° 7.3059'**
3.0 ▼	0.1▼		Trail Location Map.
		34.4▲	*Trail Location Map.*
9-3			**N 35° 16.0358' W 112° 4.3166'**
1.4 ▼	3.1▼		Bear right.
		31.4▲	*Go straight onto old Route 66.*
9-4			**N 35° 16.0172' W 112° 2.9616'**
1.0 ▼	4.5▼		Turn left on Coconino County Road 74.
		30.0▲	*Turn right on Deer Farm Road.*
9-5			**N 35° 16.6251' W 112° 3.4663'**
2.0 ▼	5.4▼		Go straight.
		29.0▲	*Go straight.*
9-6			**N 35° 18.3615' W 112° 3.3730'**
1.3 ▼	7.4▼		End paved road.
		27.0▲	*Begin paved road.*
9-7			**N 35° 19.3197' W 112° 2.6908'**
0.4 ▼	8.8▼		Continue on FR 74.
		25.7▲	*Continue on FR 74.*
9-8			**N 35° 19.4682' W 112° 2.3314'**
2.8 ▼	9.2▼		FR 75 on right. Stay on FR 74.
		25.3▲	*FR 75 on left. Stay on FR 74.*
9-9			**N 35° 21.5997' W 112° 2.9601'**
0.6 ▼	12.0▼		Turn right onto FR 141.
		22.5▲	*Turn left for El Paso on FR 74.*
9-10			**N 35° 21.9116' W 112° 2.4930'**
1.8 ▼	12.6▼		Turn left onto FR 730.
		21.9▲	*Turn right on FR 141.*

9-11			**N 35° 23.2449' W 112° 2.9409'**
0.5 ▼	14.4▼		Stay on FR 730.
		20.1▲	*Junction FR 714 and FR 708 on right. Go straight.*
9-12			**N 35° 23.6755' W 112° 2.9274'**
0.6 ▼	14.9▼		Bear left onto FR 115.
		19.6▲	*Bear right onto FR 730.*
9-13			**N 35° 24.1687' W 112° 2.8969'**
1.4 ▼	15.4▼		707 on left. Go straight.
		19.0▲	*707 on right. Go straight.*
9-14			**N 35° 25.3080' W 112° 3.2999'**
0.7 ▼	16.8▼		2030 to Laws Spring, Beale Wagon Train Route on left. Stay on 115.
		17.6▲	*2030 to Laws Spring, Beale Wagon Train Route on right. Stay on 115.*
9-15			**N 35° 25.8563' W 112° 3.2350'**
0.3 ▼	17.5▼		FR 2029C on left. Stay on FR 115.
		17.0▲	*FR 2029C on right. Stay on FR 115.*
9-16			**N 35° 26.1196' W 112° 3.1268'**
2.6 ▼	17.8▼		Go straight. FR 779 on right.
		16.6▲	*Go straight. FR 779 on left.*
9-17			**N 35° 28.0581' W 112° 4.0287'**
1.0 ▼	20.4▼		Turn right onto FR 736 (FR 87).
		14.1▲	*Enter FR 115.*
9-18			**N 35° 28.6358' W 112° 3.4386'**
1.8 ▼	21.4▼		Bear left onto FR 87.
		13.1▲	*Go straight onto FR 736 (FR 87).*
9-19			**N 35° 29.8017' W 112° 2.1930'**
1.1 ▼	23.2▼		Bear left. FR 334 on right.
		11.3▲	*Bear right. FR 334 on left.*
9-20			**N 35° 30.7015' W 112° 2.2268'**
0.9 ▼	24.3▼		Cattle guard.
		10.2▲	*Cattle guard.*

9-21			**N 35º 31.3996' W 112º 2.6004'**
1.3 ▼	25,2▼		Corral on right. Go straight at intersection.
		9.2▲	*Corral on left. Go straight at intersection.*
9-22			**N 35º 32.4410' W 112º 2.2103'**
1.0 ▼	26.5▼		Stay on main trail.
		7.9▲	*Stay on main trail.*
9-23			**N 35º 33.0972' W 112º 1.6921'**
1.9 ▼	27.5▼		FR 89A on right. stay on FR 87.
		7.0▲	*FR 89 on left. stay on FR 87.*
9-24			**N 35º 33.9272' W 112º 0.2417'**
0.4 ▼	29.4▼		FR 330 on right. Turn left on FR 87.
		5.1▲	*FR 330 on left. Turn right on FR 87.*
9-25			**N 35º 34.2581' W 112º 0.3274'**
0.6 ▼	29.8▼		Bear right under power lines. FR 87E.
		4.7▲	*Bear left.*
9-26			**N 35º 34.5788' W 111º 59.9016'**
1.1 ▼	30.4▼		Turn right onto FR 9161B.
		4.1▲	*Turn left under power lines onto FR 87E.*
9-27			**N 35º 34.4445' W 111º 58.8289'**
0.8 ▼	31.4▼		Bear left at fork.
		3.1▲	*Turn right at fork.*
9-28			**N 35º 34.7906' W 111º 58.1538'**
0.8 ▼	32.2▼		Bear right at fork onto FR 9161B.
		2.3▲	*Bear left at fork.*
9-29			**N 35º 34.5452' W 111º 57.3712'**
1.5 ▼	33.0▼		Bear left onto FR 9153H.
		1.5▲	*Bear right on FR 9161 B.*
9-30			**N 35º 34.5016' W 111º 55.9259'**
Arrive	34.5▼		End of trail. Exit onto Highway 180. Left for Williams, right for Flagstaff.
		0.0▲	*Start of trail at marker FR 354. (FR 350 on Trail Location Map)*

Williams and views from the trail.

Great Western Trail 10:
Tusayan to Indian Lands

This trail combines the high prairie and the pinyon and juniper forests of the Tusayan Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest with the flat, almost barren Navajo Reservation. The former is well marked, with a turn-off for the Grand Canyon for those would like to visit one of the great wonders of the state before continuing the Great Western Trail. The latter is an adventure in itself since it will be easier to find a white buffalo in New York City than a trail marker on the reservation that will point the way to civilization.

The Tusayan and Williams Ranger Districts are part of the largest contiguous pine forest in the world.

The Moqui Stage Station and stage line that connected Flagstaff to the Grand Canyon from 1893 to 1901 are on this trail. The bumpy, dusty 20-hour ride cost a dollar a mile. Considering inflation, today's taxicabs cost less. The quality of the ride is open to discussion.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 10-1: (Tusayan portion) From Route 180, 13 miles east of Valle between mileposts 252 and 253, turn north over a cattle guard and onto FR 9161.

Waypoint 10-37: (Navajo Reservation) turn south off Highway 64 between mileposts 276-277. Use GPS coordinates to locate the exact entry point.

Roads Comprising Trail:

(Tusayan) FR 9161 – FR 305 – FR 305B – FR 301 – FR 313 – FR 312 – FR 337 – FR 2754.

(Navajo) 1345. Road markers are rare on the reservation.

Open months/Best Travel: Mid-May to November. This trail may be closed during the winter months because of snow or heavy rainfall.

Permits: None required to drive the Tusayan (southern) section of this trail. You need a permit to drive the northern section on the Navajo Reservation.

Elevation Min/Max: 6342'/7103'

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 42.6 miles.

Travel Time: 5 hours 30 minutes.

Difficulty: moderate.

Remoteness: 4/4

Services Available: none along the trail. Food, lodging, and gasoline are available at Valle, at the junction of Highways 180 and 64, and in Cameron on Highway 89.

Driving the Trail: The trail starts on Highway 180, 13 miles east of Valle between mileposts 252 and 253. It is unmarked here, but begins directly across from GWT 9. Turn north over a wide cattle guard and then left onto FR 9161.

The rutted trail has rocky, bumpy sections, but is easy to drive. Short bypasses skirt muddy sections that will be present after heavy rains. It begins in the high desert of the Kaibab Forest where grasses and scattered trees mark the landscape. After a few miles you leave the forest and enter Babbitt's Coconino Plateau Natural Reserve Lands, but will reenter the forest when FR 9161 becomes FR 305, just before 10-6.

At 10-7 you arrive at the Moqui Stage Station information board. The remains of the stage stop are just past FR 301 in the Russell Wash Section of the Arizona Trail.

You can continue on FR 305 to FR 320 and Route 64 to visit the Grand Canyon, or turn right onto FR 305B to stay on the GWT.

You will pass the Harbison and Bloody Tanks (both reservoirs) near 10-10 before turning left on FR 313 at 10-12. At 10-16, turn right onto FR 312. Stay on this road to FR 337 at 10-19. Enter FR 2754 at 10-20. There is an active sinkhole here.

The information board at 10-21 signals the end of the Tusayan portion of the trail.

As the Navajo Reservation is not part of the GWT, you can return to Highway 180, or you can drive across the reservation (if you have a permit) and exit the trail at Highway 64.

There are many roads in this area, some of which have not been traveled in a very long time. Follow our trail or make your own. An Arizona Topographical map, compatible with Garmin GPS

receivers, shows many of the trails crossing the reservation. You can download it at www.gpsfiledepot.com/maps/view/1.

If you drive through the reservation, there is a spectacular view of the Little Colorado River Gorge at 10-33.

This trail ends at Highway 64, but rather than drive immediately to House Rock and Great Western Trail 11, stop at the Navajo Ranger Station (at the junction of Highways 89 and 64) in Cameron to buy a permit to visit and camp on the reservation at The Gap.

Trail Information: Tusayan Ranger District, Navajo Ranger Station (Appendix B).

Restrictions: You need a permit to drive or camp on the Navajo Reservation.

Map References:

USGS:

1:24,000: Ebert Mt, Dog Knobs, Harbison Tank, Peterson Flat, Willows Camp, Hellhole Bend.

1:100,000: Cameron.

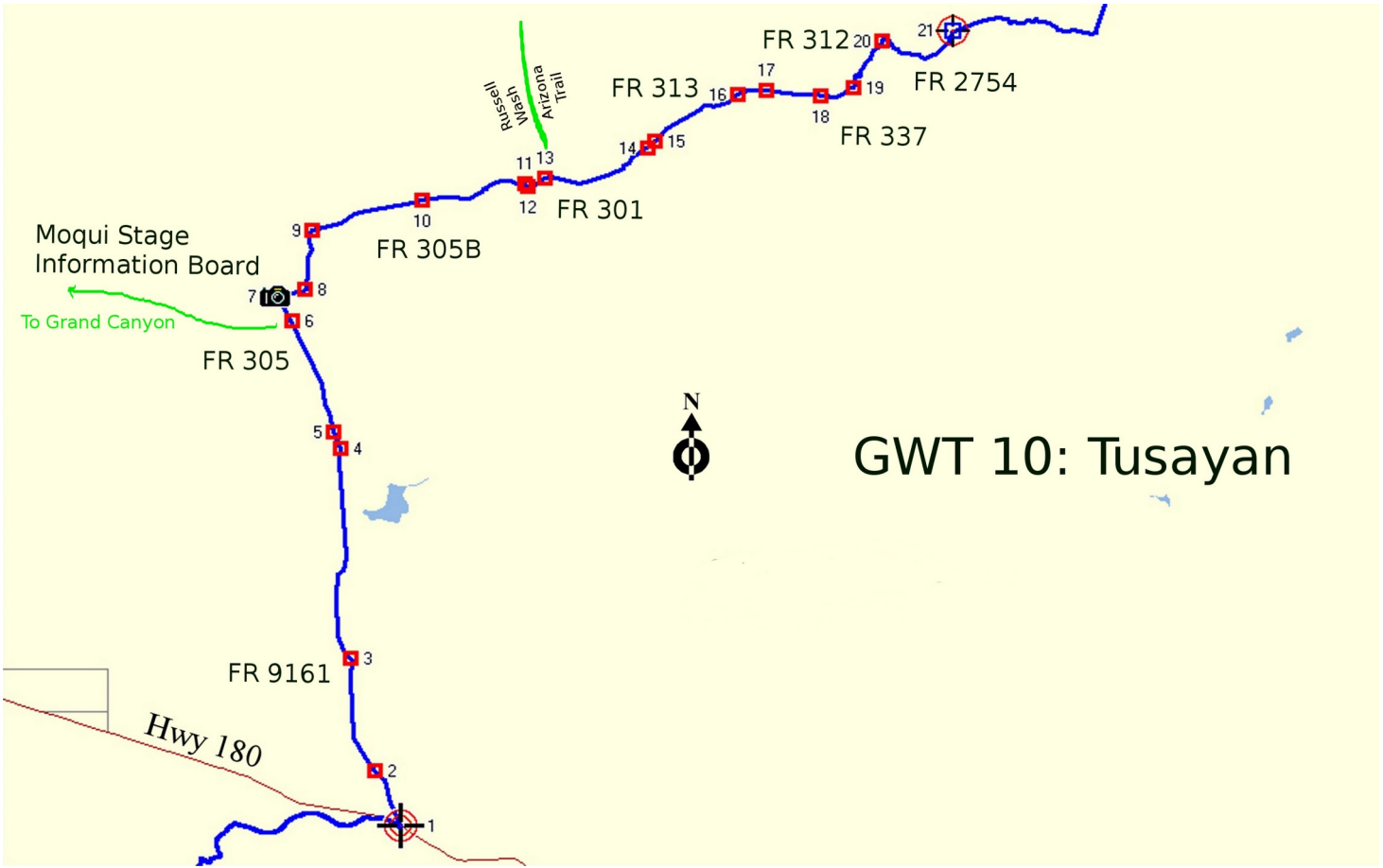
1:250,000: Flagstaff (AZ)

Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 34, 68.

USDA Forest Service Map: Kaibab National Forest Williams and Tusayan Ranger Districts, Great Western Trail Kaibab National Forest.

Sign and sinkhole at 10-20


GWT 10: Tusayan
N
Moqui Stage
Information Board
To Grand Canyon
FR 305
FR 305B
FR 301
FR 313
FR 312
FR 337
FR 2754
FR 9161
Hwy 180
Russell
Wash
Arizona
Trail
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GWT 10: Tusayan to Navajo Reservation

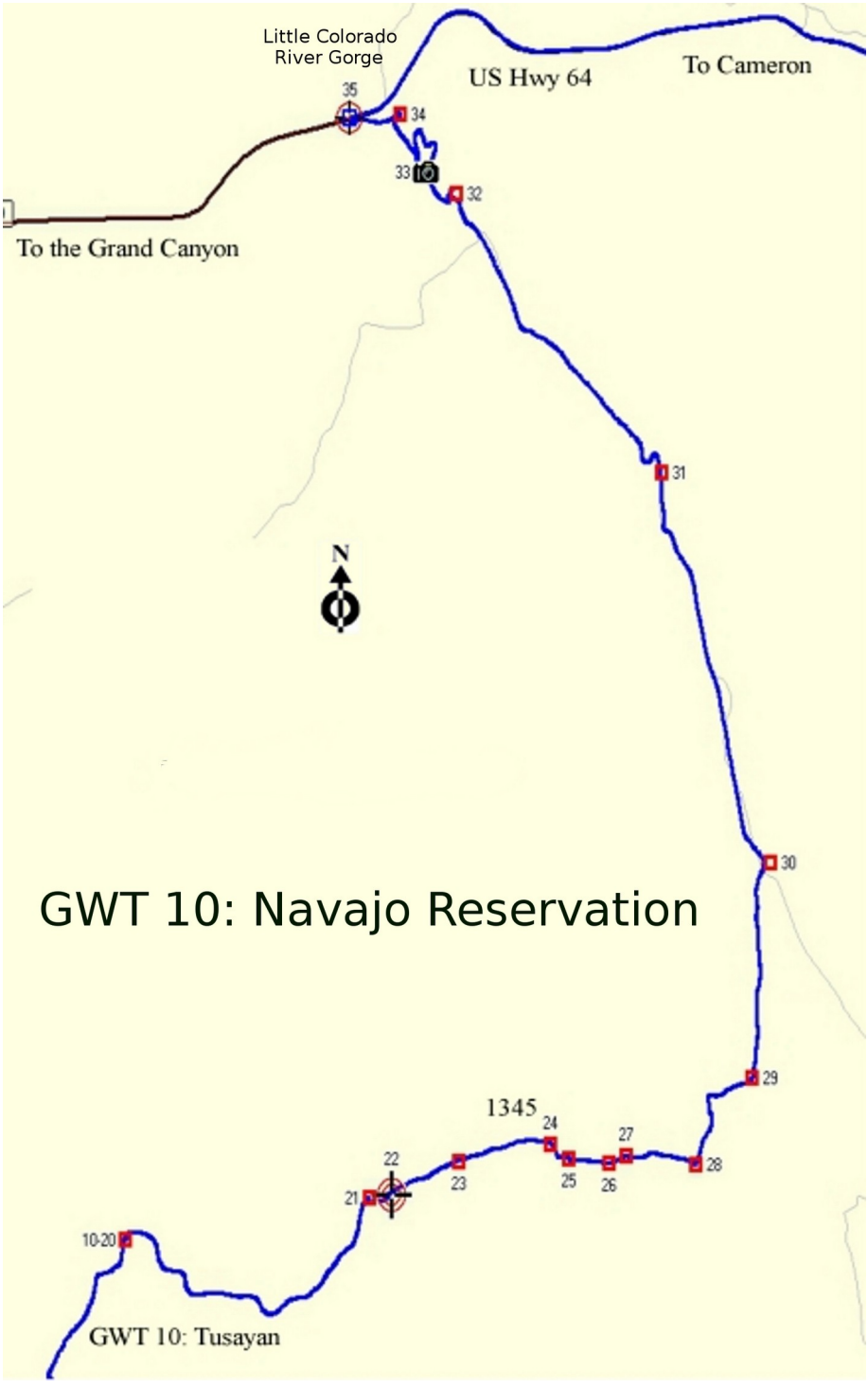
10-1			**N 35° 34.5211' W 111° 55.9214'**
1.4 ▼	0.0 ▼		Turn north from US 180 between mile markers 252-253, then left onto FR 9161.
		42.4 ▲	*Exit onto US 180. Turn right for Williams, left for Flagstaff.*
10-2			**N 35° 35.6500' W 111° 56.5296'**
2.7 ▼	1.4 ▼		Bear left at fork. Washed out areas.
		41.0 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-3			**N 35° 37.9245' W 111° 57.1262'**
5.1 ▼	4.1 ▼		Bear left.
		38.3 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-4			**N 35° 42.1839' W 111° 57.3522'**
0.4 ▼	9.2 ▼		Go straight.
		33.2 ▲	*Bear right.*
10-5			**N 35° 42.5351' W 111° 57.5130'**
2.7 ▼	9.6 ▼		Bear right.
		32.8 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-6			**N 35° 44.7776' W 111° 58.5388'**
0.7 ▼	12.3 ▼		Bear left at "y." FR 2737 on right.
		30.1 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-7			**N 35° 45.2951' W 111° 58.9253'**
0.7 ▼	13.0 ▼		Moqui Stage Station information board. Turn right on FR 305B.
		29.4 ▲	*Turn left onto FR 305.*
10-8			**N 35° 45.4116' W 111° 58.2274'**
1.5 ▼	13.7 ▼		FR 2737 on right. Go straight.
		28.7 ▲	*Bear right. FR 2737 on left.*
10-9			**N 35° 46.6208' W 111° 58.0465'**
2.6 ▼	15.2 ▼		Turn right onto FR 305B. FR 776 on left.
		27.2 ▲	*Bear left on FR 305B.*
10-10			**N 35° 47.2207' W 111° 55.4108'**
2.5 ▼	17.8 ▼		FR 305BA on left. Go straight.
		24.6 ▲	*FR 305BA on right. Bear left.*

10-11			**N 35° 47.5613' W 111° 52.9162'**
0.1 ▼	20.3 ▼		Junction FR 301. Turn right on FR 301
		22.2 ▲	*Turn left on FR 305B.*
10-12			**N 35° 47.5070' W 111° 52.8632'**
0.5 ▼	20.4 ▼		FR 301 straight ahead. Turn left on FR 313.
		22.1 ▲	*Turn right on FR 301.*
10-13			**N 35° 47.6891' W 111° 52.4437'**
2.6 ▼	20.9 ▼		Russel Wash Section. AZ Trail on left.
		21.6 ▲	*Russel Wash Section. AZ Trail on right.*
10-14			**N 35° 48.2852' W 111° 49.9883'**
0.2 ▼	23.5 ▼		FR 313 F on left. Go straight.
		19.0 ▲	*FR 313 F on right. Go straight.*
10-15			**N 35° 48.4302' W 111° 49.7962'**
2.2 ▼	23.7 ▼		Cross FR 2741. Go straight on FR 313.
		18.8 ▲	*Cross FR 2741. Go straight on FR 313.*
10-16			**N 35° 49.3638' W 111° 47.8190'**
0.7 ▼	25.9 ▼		FR 313 on left. Go right on FR 312.
		16.6 ▲	*Go straight on FR 313.*
10-17			**N 35° 49.4693' W 111° 47.1417'**
1.3 ▼	26.6 ▼		Bear right. Stay on FR 312.
		15.9 ▲	*Bear left on FR 312.*
10-18			**N 35° 49.3387' W 111° 45.8105'**
0.8 ▼	27.9 ▼		FR 2763 on right. Go straight.
		14.6 ▲	*FR 2763 on left. Go straight.*
10-19			**N 35° 49.5245' W 111° 45.0413'**
1.4 ▼	28.7 ▼		FR 312 on right. Go straight on FR 337.
		13.8 ▲	*Bear right onto FR 312.*
10-20			**N 35° 50.4640' W 111° 44.3510'**
2.2 ▼	30.1 ▼		Go right on FR 2754.
		12.4 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-21			**N 35° 50.6646' W 111° 42.6272'**
0.1 ▼	32.3 ▼		End of GWT. Bear right after cattle guard.
		10.2 ▲	*Follow road to left*

Views along the trail

Waypoint 7: Moqui Stage Station information Board

GREAT WESTERN TRAIL
THE GREAT WESTERN TRAIL is a 3,000-mile backcountry route from Canada to Mexico. Arizona's 800-mile-portion of the trail uses back roads that traverse rugged and beautiful country with many points of discovery along the way.
ALONG THE WAY...
It is 20 miles across the Tusayan Ranger District to the Navajo Indian Reservation.
GREAT WESTERN TRAIL
KAIBAB NATIONAL FOREST
Great Western Trail
TRAIL LOCATION
Tusayan Ranger District
Kaibab National Forest
YOU ARE HERE
GRAND CANYON
Don't miss a spectacular side trip to one of the natural wonders of the world. Take FS road 305 to FS road 320 west to State Route 64 north for a look 2 billion years back into geologic time. Take time to consider the vastness of nature and this special place.
MOQUI STAGE STATION
This was an important rest stop along the Flagstaff-Grand Canyon Stage Route from 1892-1901. Here, horses were changed and passengers rested from a bumpy and dusty ride. The trip took all day and cost $20, a considerable sum in those days. When the Grand Canyon Railroad was completed to the south rim from Williams in 1901, the stage line became a thing of the past as people opted for speed and comfort.
Traveling the Great Western Trail offers forest visitors an excellent opportunity to observe current as well as historic uses of public lands. Watch for evidence of sheep and cattle grazing, timber sales, prescribed fire, reforestation projects, hunters, woodcutters, and recreationists—all here, just as you are, to make use of some feature of this diverse and productive land.
• Stay on designated roads.
• Carry an adequate supply of food, water, fuel, and maps.
• Advise others of your travel plans.
• Tread Lightly! And Leave No Trace.
This project was financed in part by a grant from the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund administered by the Arizona State Parks Board.


Little Colorado
River Gorge
US Hwy 64
To Cameron
To the Grand Canyon
35
34
33
32
31
N
30
GWT 10: Navajo Reservation
29
1345
24
27
22
23
25
26
28
21
10-20
GWT 10: Tusayan

GWT 10: Navajo Reservation to Highway 64

10-22			**N 35° 50.6907' W 111° 42.4736'**
0.5 ▼	32.4 ▼		Go straight.
		10.1 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-23			**N 35° 50.8429' W 111° 41.9999'**
0.6 ▼	32.9 ▼		Go straight.
		9.6 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-24			**N 35° 50.9280' W 111° 41.3535'**
0.2 ▼	33.5 ▼		Bear right.
		9.0 ▲	*Bear left onto 1345.*
10-25			**N 35° 50.8501' W 111° 41.2129'**
0.3 ▼	33.7 ▼		Go straight.
		8.8 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-26			**N 35° 50.8337' W 111° 40.9464'**
0.1 ▼	34.0 ▼		Bear left.
		8.5 ▲	*Go straight.*
10-27			**N 35° 50.8679' W 111° 40.8238'**
0.5 ▼	34.1 ▼		Bear right.
		8.4 ▲	*Bear left.*
10-28			**N 35° 50.8314' W 111° 40.3387'**
0.7 ▼	34.6 ▼		Bear left.
		7.9 ▲	*Bear right.*
10-29			**N 35° 51.2581' W 111° 39.9309'**
1.2 ▼	35.3 ▼		Bear left then go straight.
		7.2 ▲	*Bear right.*
10-30			**N 35° 52.2833' W 111° 39.8517'**
2.3 ▼	36.5 ▼		Turn left.
		6.0 ▲	*Bear right.*
10-31			**N 35° 54.1659' W 111° 40.5782'**
2.2 ▼	38.8 ▼		Trail on right. Go straight.
		3.7 ▲	*Trail on left. Go straight.*

10-32			**N 35° 55.5040' W 111° 42.0651'**
0.3 ▼	41.0 ▼		Camping area on right.
		1.5 ▲	*Camping area on left.*
10-33			**N 35° 55.6128' W 111° 42.2325'**
0.8 ▼	41.3 ▼		Trail on left. Bear right.
		1.2 ▲	*Bear left then go straight.*
10-34			**N 35° 55.8955' W 111° 42.4151'**
0.4 ▼	42.2 ▼		Turn left.
		0.4 ▲	*Turn right.*
10-35			**N 35° 55.8708' W 111° 42.7643'**
Arrive	42.5 ▼		End of trail at Hwy 64. Turn left for Grand Canyon, right for Cameron.
		0.0 ▲	*Begin trail, turn south between mile markers 276-277.*

Hi-tech roundup on the reservation

Old Navajo Hogan

10-33: Little Colorado River Gorge

Great Western Trail 11:
House Rock to Jacob Lake (US 89A)

The scenery along Highway 89 from GWT 10 to GWT 11 through the Painted Desert is spectacular. A bentonite clay that swells when wet and erodes away when dry, makes up the Chinle Formation. Few plants can grow here, but colorful lavender, blue, green, and gray hills make up for what the area lacks in vegetation.

Highway 89 continues to Page, but you will turn onto 89-Alt and drive over the Navajo Bridge that crosses the Colorado River in Marble Canyon. The highway runs along the south side of the Vermilion Cliffs. Navajo Sandstone, a pale, salmon-colored formation with slanting layers, is prominent in this area.

This trail begins at House Rock and its bison herd, with a difficult ascent after a drive though miles of unmarked grasslands. Much of it traverses forested lands, some of which burned in a recent fire. Dead trees are now falling across the trail, creating an obstacle course that changes from day to day. If you cannot drive around them, you will have to saw or hack through them.

This is a difficult, remote trail, and a sign at the beginning of a long, steep, and slippery ascent warns you not to try the climb in a 2-WD vehicle.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 11-1: Turn south on FR 8910, House Rock, between mileposts 559 and 560 on US 89A.

Waypoint 11-27: Turn south on FR 225 at milepost 576 on US 89A (3.2 miles before Jacob Lake).

Roads Comprising Trail: FR 8910 – FR 284C – FR 284 – FR 224 – FR 225.

Open months/Best Travel: Mid-May to November. It may be closed because of snow or rain between December and May.

Permits: none at this time.
Elevation Min/Max: 4924'/8528'
Unpaved (total) Mileage: 27.6 miles.
Time: 3 hours.
Difficulty: Difficult.
Remoteness: 4/4
Services: none. Fuel, food and lodging are available at Marble Canyon and Jacob Lake.

Driving the Trail: The trail begins on a graded road at House Rock, FR 8910, between mileposts 559 and 560 on US 89A. The information board at the entrance to the trail explains the history of the area.

At 11-2, turn right into a pasture 50 yards before the cattle guard sign. There may be no visible tracks through the grassland from 11-4 to 11-6, so follow the GPS coordinates carefully.

Do not pass 11-8 if you are not driving a 4-WD vehicle. A long ascent begins here, needing careful wheel placement, and ends at 11-10.

Enter FR 284C at 11-11. Stay on this very rocky, sometimes off-camber road until you pass a water tank on the left. Follow the road downhill and bear left. At 11-13 turn right over the cattle guard and then turn left. Continue on FR 284 and cross FR 220 at 11-14.

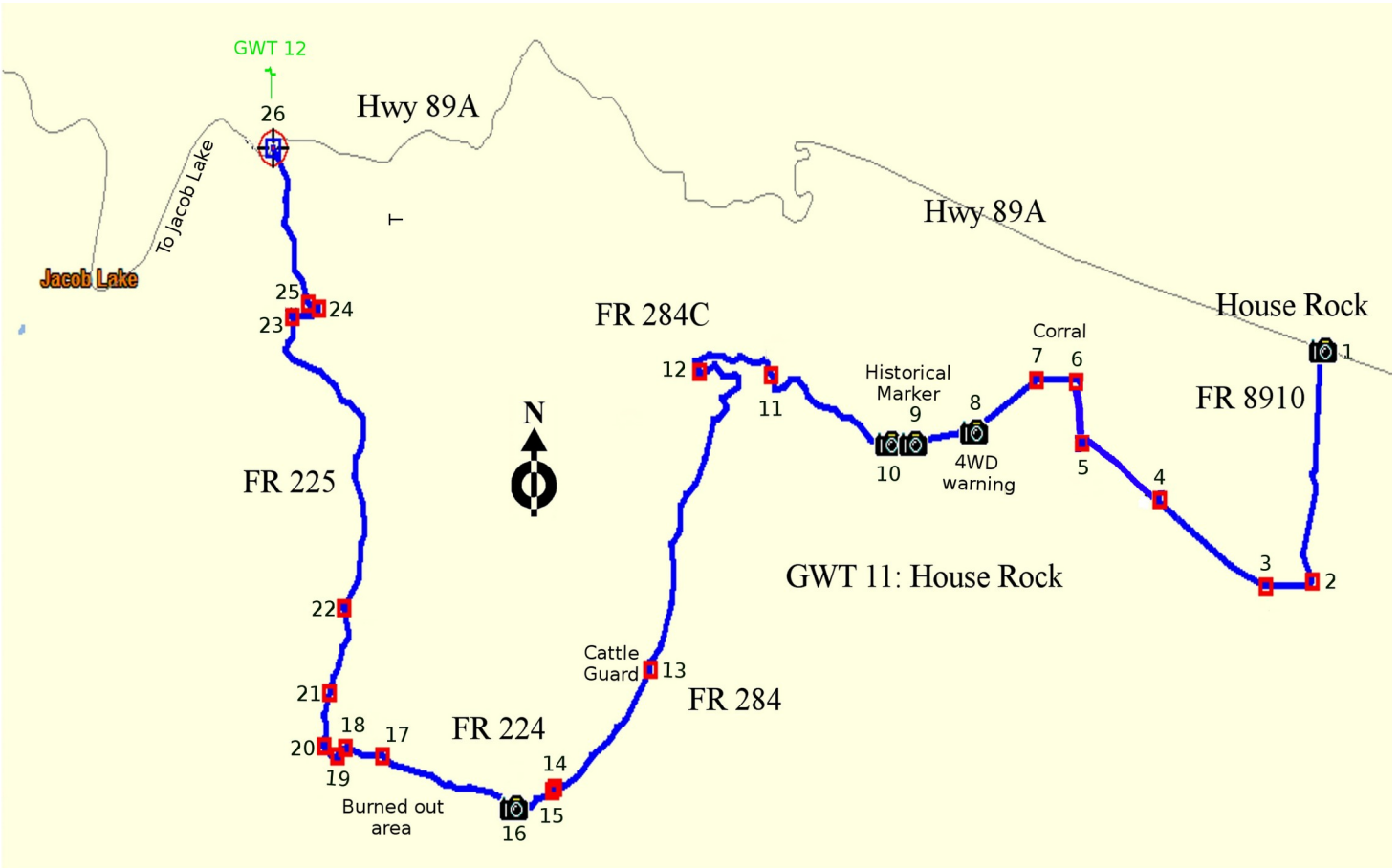
At 11-15 the trail climbs for the next 5.5 miles. Burned trees are still falling in this area, and you may have to find your way around them. Wildlife abounds, and deer and other animals scamper through the burned-out forest, chased by their hunters in October.

The road levels out at 11-19. At 11-20 turn right onto FR 225. Stay on this road until you exit the trail at US 89A, south of Jacob Lake. There are many areas to camp along this trail, which apart from FR 225, is very remote.

Trail Information: North Kaibab Ranger District (Appendix B).
Restrictions: none at this time.
Map References:
USGS:
1:24,000: Emmett Hill, House Rock, Jacob Lake.
1:100,000: Fredonia, Glen Canyon dam.
1:250,000: Marble Canyon, Grand Canyon
Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 28, 62.

USDA Forest Service Map: Kaibab National Forest North Kaibab Ranger District; Great Western Trail Kaibab National Forest.


GWT 12
26
Hwy 89A
To Jacob Lake
Jacob Lake
Hwy 89A
House Rock
25
24
23
FR 284C
12
11
Historical
Marker
9
8
Corral
7
6
1
FR 8910
10
4WD
warning
5
4
N
FR 225
GWT 11: House Rock
3
2
22
Cattle
Guard
13
21
18
17
FR 284
FR 224
20
19
14
Burned out
area
16
15

GWT 11: House Rock to US 89a

11-1			**N 36° 42.2896' W 111° 56.7648'**
2.3▼	0.0▼		Turn south onto FR 8910, House Rock between mileposts 559 and 560.
		27.3▲	*Exit at US 89A. Turn left for Jacob Lake, right for Marble Canyon.*
11-2			**N 36° 40.3499' W 111° 56.9068'**
0.6▼	2.3▼		Turn right, 50 yards before cattle guard sign
		25.0▲	*Turn left on wide road.*
11-3			**N 36° 40.3074' W 111° 57.5205'**
1.5▼	2.9▼		Bear right.
		24.4▲	*Turn left.*
11-4			**N 36° 41.0273' W 111° 58.9113'**
1.3▼	4.4▼		Go straight.
		23.9▲	*Go straight.*
11-5			**N 36° 41.6559' W 111° 59.9974'**
0.4▼	5.7▼		Turn right.
		22.6▲	*Turn left.*
11-6			**N 36° 42.0260' W 112° 59.9964'**
0.5▼	6.1▼		Turn left.
		21.2▲	*Turn right.*
11-7			**N 36° 42.0280' W 112° 0.5158'**
0.9▼	6.6▼		Bear left.
		20.7▲	Bear right.
11-8			**N 36° 41.5979' W 112° 1.3272'**
0.8▼	7.5▼		Four Wheel Drive only sign. Begin ascent.
		19.8▲	*Four Wheel Drive only sign. End descent.*
11-9			**N 36° 41.5084' W 112° 2.1291'**
0.3▼	8.3▼		Historical marker of Expedition of 1776.
		19.0▲	*Historical marker of Expedition of 1776.*

11-10			**N 36º 41.5041' W 112º 2.4516'**
1.9▼	8.6▼		Rocky, steep, difficult ascent
		18.7▲	*Steep descent.*
11-11			**N 36º 42.0781' W 112º 3.9928'**
1.2▼	10.5▼		FR 284C straight ahead
		16.8▲	*FR 284C straight ahead*
11-12			**N 36º 42.0967' W 112º 4.9353'**
3.8▼	11.7▼		Water tank on left, follow road to the left.
		15.6▲	*Keep right, then straight up hill. Water tank on right.*
11-13			**N 36º 39.6132' W 112º 5.5718'**
1.7▼	15.5▼		Go to right over cattle guard then left on FR 284.
		11.8▲	*Go to right over cattle guard then left on FR 284C.*
11-14			**N 36º 38.6148' W 112º 6.8279'**
0.1▼	17.2▼		Cross FR 220 straight onto FR 224.
		10.1▲	*Cross FR 220 straight onto FR 284.*
11-15			**N 36º 38.5883' W 112º 6.8646'**
0.5▼	17.3▼		Warning of steep road next 5.5 miles.
		10.0▲	*Steep road ends.*
11-16			**N 36º 38.4555' W 112º 7.3615'**
1.7▼	17.8▼		Fallen trees throughout area.
		9.5▲	*Fallen trees throughout area.*
11-17			**N 36º 38.8816' W 112º 9.0753'**
0.5▼	19.5▼		Go straight on FR 224. FR 224G on right.
		7.8▲	*Bear right on FR 224. FR 224G on left.*
11-18			**N 36º 38.9569' W 112º 9.5706'**
0.2▼	20▼		Bear left.
		7.3▲	*FR 224A on left. Right for GWT.*
11-19			**N 36º 38.8809' W 112º 9.6779'**
0.2▼	20.2▼		End steep road (burned area).
		7.1▲	*Notice of steep road next 5.5 miles.*

11-20			**N 36° 38.9734' W 112° 9.8447'**
0.5▼	20.4▼		Turn right onto FR 225.
		6.9▲	*Turn left onto FR 224.*
11-21			**N 36° 39.4096' W 112° 9.7718'**
0.9▼	20.9▼		FR 205 on left. Go straight on FR 225.
		6.4▲	*Go straight onto FR 205.*
11-22			**N 36° 40.1226' W 112° 9.5843'**
3.4▼	21.8▼		Stay on FR 225. FR 205B on left.
		5.5▲	*Stay on FR 225. FR 205B on right.*
11-23			**N 36° 42.5574' W 112° 10.2592'**
0.4▼	25.2▼		Bear right. Campsite on left.
		2.1▲	*Bear left. Campsite on right.*
11-24			**N 36° 42.6365' W 112° 9.9086'**
0.1▼	25.6▼		Turn left on FR 225.
		1.7▲	*FR 225A straight ahead; Turn right on FR 225.*
11-25			**N 36° 42.6715' W 112° 10.0545'**
1.6▼	25.7▼		Go straight on FR 225. FR 258BK is on the left.
		1.6▲	*Go straight on FR 225. FR 258K is on the right.*
11-26			**N 36° 43.9711' W 112° 10.5059'**
Arrive	27.3▼		Exit at US 89A. Turn left for Jacob Lake, right for Marble Canyon.
		0.0▲	*Turn south from US 89A onto FR 225 at milepost 576.*

11-1 Entry to House Rock

11-8 Warning Sign

The Expedition
October 22, 1776
Skirting the base of the Kaibab Plateau is a prehistoric travel route used by American Indian peoples for thousands of years.
While following this trail, Spanish Priests Dominguez and Escalante encountered Paiute Indians camped along the foothills of the Plateau hunting game and gathering piñon nuts. The expedition camped with the Paiutes at a spring near the base of the Plateau where they traded with the Paiutes for food.
KAIBAB National Forest

11-9 Historical Marker

11-16 Fallen Tree Area

11-10 Long Descent to House Rock

Great Western Trail 12:
Jacob Lake to Utah

This last leg of the northern section of the Great Western Trail lies in the Arizona Strip, which is red-rock canyon country north of the Colorado River. Sagebrush predominates in the lower elevations; juniper, piñon, Ponderosa pines, fir, aspen and spruce forests replace it in the upper elevations.

The area, settled by Jacob Hamblin and the Mormon Pioneers in the 1800s, has been the last stronghold of polygamy even though the Mormon Church banned the practice in 1890. Navajo parties often raided the Mormon settlements until Hamblin forged a peace treaty with them.

Two Spanish priests, Dominguez and Escalante, had blazed the path in the late 1700s, but it was unused for years until a friendly Paiute showed Jacob Hamblin the steep, rocky trail. Members of the Mormon Church from Arizona used this trail, part of which went from the Echo Cliffs along present-day US 89, across the Colorado River at Lees Ferry, and then along the Vermilion Cliffs, to get to the temple of St. George in Utah. There they sealed their marriage before beginning their long, difficult journey home. Because of the large number of couples who made the trip, the trail became known as the "Honeymoon Trail."

How to Get There:

Waypoint 12-1: From Arizona, US 89A, turn north onto FR 257 at milepost 576.

Waypoint 12-26: From Utah, US 89, turn south onto Road 730, between mileposts 43 and 44.

Roads comprising trail:

From US 89A in Arizona: FR 257 – FR 249 – FR 247 – FR 248 – FR 248A – FR 248AA – BLM 1024 – Mormon Honeymoon Trail – Jacob Hamblin Road.

In Utah: Road 715 – Kane County Road K4000 (also Road 715) - Road 720 – Road 730.

Open months/Best Travel: Mid-May to November. This trail may close in the winter because of snow and rainy conditions. Contact the North Kaibab Ranger District or the Bureau of Land Management before embarking on your trip.

Permits: None required in Arizona. You will need a free permit to overnight backpack or car camp if you enter the trail from Utah. They are in a metal lectern in the parking area at the entrance to the trail.

Elevation Min/Max: 5339'/7674'

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 31.4 miles.

Travel Time: 3 hours 30 minutes.

Difficulty: Most of the trail is easy to moderate, however the steep descent and narrow switchbacks at 12-17 require careful wheel placement.

Remoteness: 4/4

Services Available: none on the trail. Fuel and services are available at Jacob Lake and Marble Canyon in Arizona, or at Kanab, in Utah.

Driving the Trail: Begin the trail at mile marker 576, 3.2 miles south of Jacob Lake on US 89-Alt. Turn north onto FR 257. The trail in this heavily forested area is mostly gravel without obstacles. At 12-5 you enter Orderville Canyon, which according to an interpretive sign in the area, "was named after the Orderville United Order, a Mormon Church cooperative which established a dairy and sheep ranching operation in the canyon around 1880."

Further on you will enter the grasslands of Summit Valley and the Willis Canyon Allotment (12-7). The Arizona Trail is about 30 yards to the right of the sign.

The Navajo Trail (Tr. n. 19) crosses the GWT just past 12-7. According to one source, this is an old Indian and shepherding trail; according to the interpretive sign on the trail, it was a Paiute Indian Trail used by the Navajos during the Navajo Indian Wars. This is closed to motor vehicles.

The road gets rougher at 12-9. You get a breathtaking view of the Vermilion Cliffs from the Buckskin Mountains at 12-17 before beginning a steep, winding descent down the Mormon Honeymoon Trail and the Jacob Hamblin Road at 12-19.

The trail becomes easy again from this point. At 12-20 you cross into Utah on a rutted and bumpy road. At 12-26 the norther section of the Trail ends.

Congratulations! We hope you enjoyed it.

At the exit turn left for Kanab and Arizona or cross the highway to begin the Utah section of the Great Western Trail which we do not describe in this book.

Trail Information: North Kaibab Ranger District, Bureau of Land Management (Appendix B).

Restrictions: Information regarding the use of the Jacob Lake Campground, Jacob Lake Group Camping Area, Demotte Campground, and the Indian Hollow campground are available from the North Kaibab Ranger District.

Map References:

USGS:

1:24,000: Jacob Lake, Cooper Ridge, Buck Pasture Canyon, Petrified Hollow.

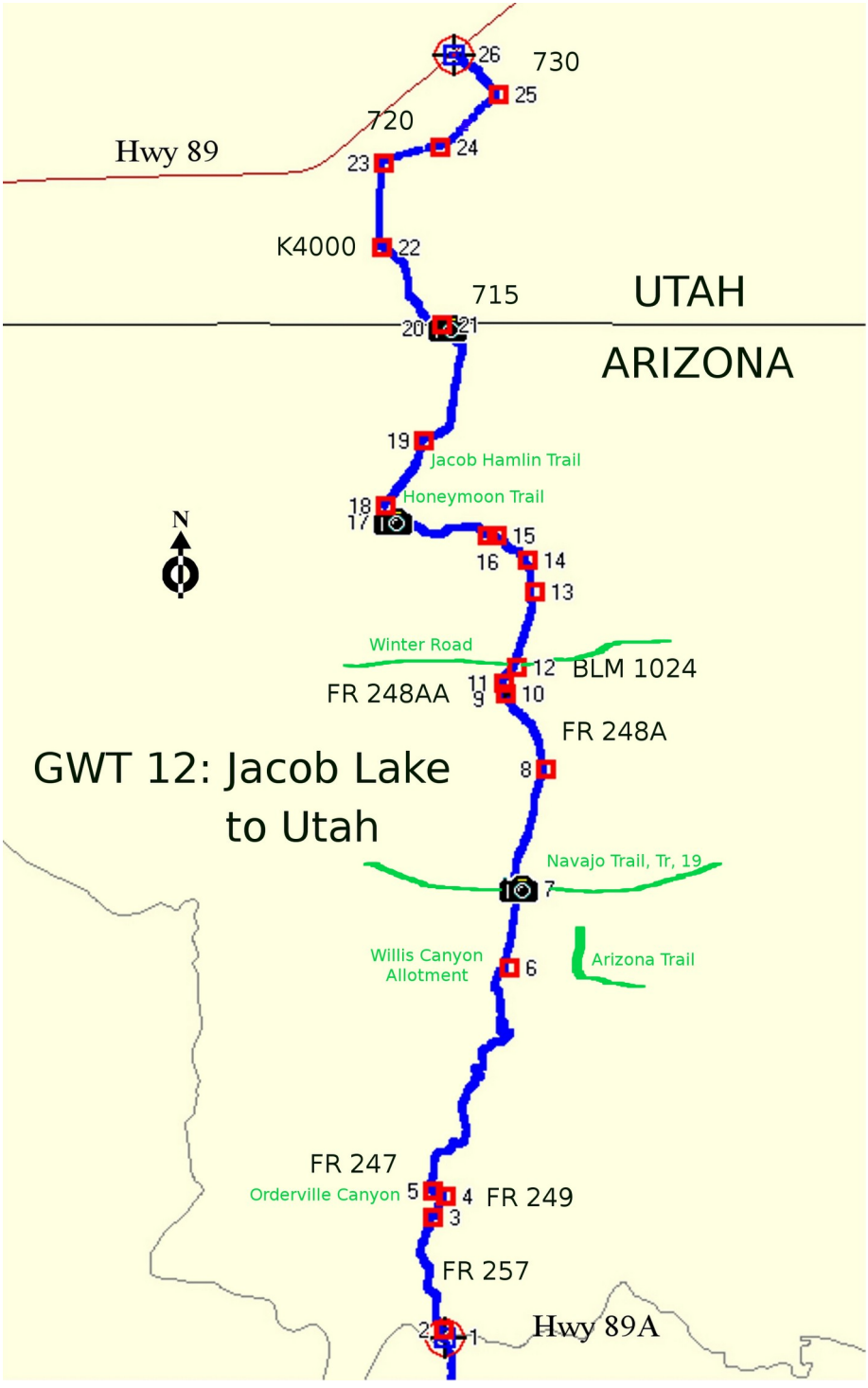
1:100,000: Fredonia (AZ), Kanab (UT).

1:250,000: Grand Canyon (AZ), Cedar City (UT)

Terrain Navigator DVD: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 28, 62.

USDA Forest Service Map: Kaibab National Forest, North Kaibab Ranger District; Great Western Trail Kaibab National Forest.


GWT 12: Jacob Lake to Utah
Hwy 89
730
720
K4000
715
UTAH
ARIZONA
Jacob Hamlin Trail
Honeymoon Trail
N
Winter Road
BLM 1024
FR 248AA
FR 248A
Navajo Trail, Tr, 19
Willis Canyon Allotment
Arizona Trail
FR 247
Orderville Canyon
FR 249
FR 257
Hwy 89A

GWT 12: Jacob Lake to Utah

12-1			**N 36° 43.9770' W 112° 10.5177'**
0.2 ▼	0.0▼		From US 89A, milepost 576, turn north onto FR 257.
		31.4▲	*Exit at US 89A. Straight to GWT 11, turn right for Jacob Lake.*
12-2			**N 36° 44.1232' W 112° 10.5360'**
2.3 ▼	0.2▼		FR 487 on right. Go straight.
		31.2▲	*FR 487 on left. Go straight.*
12-3			**N 36° 45.9044' W 112° 10.7457'**
0.5 ▼	2.5▼		FR 290 on left. Bear right.
		28.9▲	*FR 290 on right. Bear left.*
12-4			**N 36° 46.2292' W 112° 10.4940'**
0.3 ▼	3.0▼		Bear left onto FR 249.
		28.4▲	*Turn right onto FR 257*
12-5			**N 36° 46.3271' W 112° 10.7524'**
5.5 ▼	3.3▼		Turn right at cattle guard onto FR 247.
		28.1▲	*Turn left after cattle guard onto FR 249.*
12-6			**N 36° 49.8656' W 112° 9.2946'**
1.4 ▼	8.8▼		Willis Canyon Allotment. Arizona Trail on right.
		22.6▲	*Willis Canyon Allotment. Arizona Trail on left.*
12-7			**N 36° 51.1039' W 112° 9.1165'**
2.3 ▼	10.2▼		Go straight onto FR 248, then cross Navajo Trail.
		21.2▲	*Continue straight onto FR 247.*
12-8			**N 36° 53.0185' W 112° 8.5844'**
1.5 ▼	12.5▼		Bear left onto FR 248A.
		18.9▲	*Bear right onto FR 248.*
12-9			**N 36° 54.0933' W 112° 9.2543'**
0.2 ▼	14.0▼		FR 248A on left. Go straight onto FR 248AA. Rough road ahead.

		17.4▲	*FR 248A on right. Straight on FR 248A.*
12-10			**N 36° 54.2067' W 112° 9.3497'**
0.2 ▼	14.2▼		Cattle guard. Leaving Kaibab Forest.
		17.2▲	Cattle guard. Entering Kaibab Forest.
12-11			**N 36° 54.3689' W 112° 9.3842'**
0.4 ▼	14.4▼		Bear right.
		17.0▲	*Bear left.*
12-12			**N 36° 54.6295' W 112° 9.1538'**
1.4 ▼	14.8▼		Cross BLM Road 1025 onto BLM Road 1024 straight ahead.
		16.6▲	*Cross BLM Road 1025. Go straight.*
12-13			**N 36° 55.8269' W 112° 8.8059'**
0.6 ▼	16.2▼		BLM 1024 straight ahead.
		15.2▲	*Stay on trail.*
12-14			**N 36° 56.3092' W 112° 8.9373'**
0.8 ▼	16.8▼		Straight ahead.
		14.6▲	*Straight ahead.*
12-15			**N 36° 56.7215' W 112° 9.5418'**
0.2 ▼	17.6▼		Bear left.
		13.8▲	*Bear right.*
12-16			**N 36° 56.7071' W 112° 9.7122'**
1.9 ▼	17.8▼		Bear right.
		13.6▲	*Bear left.*
12-17			**N 36° 56.9226' W 112° 11.4998'**
0.4 ▼	19.7▼		Begin steep descent, sharp turns, loose rock.
		11.7▲	*End of steep ascent.*
12-18			**N 36° 57.1794' W 112° 11.6485'**
1.5 ▼	20.1▼		Keep right on Honeymoon Trail.
		11.3▲	*Keep left. Steep ascent ahead.*
12-19			**N 36° 58.2113' W 112° 10.9036'**
2.6 ▼	21.6▼		Turn right onto Jacob Hamblin Road. Honeymoon Trail continues to left.
		9.8▲	*Turn left onto Jacob Hamblin Road.*

12-20			**N 36° 59.9985' W 112° 10.4710'**
0.1 ▼	24.2 ▼		Utah/Arizona State Line.
		7.2 ▲	*Utah/Arizona State Line.*
12-21			**N 37° 0.0668' W 112° 10.5564'**
1.9 ▼	24.3 ▼		Bear left, then straight on Road 715.
		7.1 ▲	*Bear right after Arizona GWT sign.*
12-22			**N 37° 1.2876' W 112° 11.7066'**
1.6 ▼	26.2 ▼		Turn right on Kane County road K4000 (also Road 715).
		5.2 ▲	*Turn left onto Road 715.*
12-23			**N 37° 2.6218' W 112° 11.6907'**
1.0 ▼	27.8 ▼		Turn right on Road 720.
		3.6 ▲	*Turn left onto K4000 (also marked Road 715).*
12-24			**N 37° 2.8615' W 112° 10.6220'**
1.4 ▼	28.8 ▼		Go straight on Road 720.
		2.6 ▲	*Stay on Road 720.*
12-25			**N 37° 3.6888' W 112° 9.4885'**
1.2 ▼	30.2 ▼		Turn left onto Road 730.
		1.2 ▲	*Turn right onto Road 720.*
12-26			**N 37° 4.3253' W 112° 10.3292'**
Arrive	31.4 ▼		Exit Hwy 89 turn left for US 89A and Arizona.
		0.0 ▲	*Turn south onto Road 730 from US 89 between mileposts 43 & 44*

End of Great Western Trail in Arizona

The Navajo Trail
The Navajo Trail was originally a Paiute Indian trail used by Navajo raiding parties before and during the Navajo Indian Wars.
In 1870, an informal agreement was negotiated by Jacob Hamblin and John Wesley Powell which established peaceful relations between the Navajo, Paiute and early Mormon settlers.
KAIBAB National Forest

12-7: Navajo Trail

12-20: Crossing into Utah

Did you know?
Orderville Canyon was named after the Orderville United Order, a Mormon Church cooperative which established a dairy and sheep ranching operation in the canyon around 1880.
In the early twentieth century, a sawmill operated in the canyon. Evidence of the old mill site and workers' residences can still be found.
KAIBAB National Forest

Orderville Canyon

Willis Canyon Allotment

12-17: Vermillion Cliffs from Buckskin Mountain

Great Western Trail 13:
The Navajo Reservation

Despite printed information to the contrary, the Great Western Trail does not travel across the Navajo Reservation, and according to a member of a commission studying the proposal, will not do so in the future.

We include it as Trail 13 because for a small fee you can drive across its vast grassland and camp wherever you wish. Camping is primitive, so bring all your necessities with you.

The 360,000 acre Little Colorado River Gorge, which adjoins the eastern boundary of Grand Canyon National Park, became a Navajo Tribal Park in 1962. You can enter it from Highway 64 and buy jewelry, pottery and other items from Navajo vendors who have stands along the highway.

Cameron, a Navajo Trading Post on Route 89, is worth a visit. Food, lodging, and services are available here and at the junction of Highways 89 and 64.

While driving on the reservation you will see hogans, the traditional Navajo log, brush and mud house with five, six or eight sides (photo pg. 105). Its entrance always faces the rising sun. Most Navajo now live in modern houses, but some still live in hogans, which are also used for family ceremonies.

Open Range rules apply here. Livestock have the right-of-way and you are responsible for any injury you cause them while driving on the reservation.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 13-1: The entrance to the reservation is west of Highway 89, approximately 1.1 miles north of The Gap. There are no markers except for a cattle guard, so follow the GPS coordinates.

Roads Comprising Trail: Indian Land Route 6130, from and to

Highway 89. As this is not part of the Great Western Trail, there is no specific trail to follow. We include the one we drove to the Salt Trail Canyon. Other possibilities are available, and the Navajo Rangers will give you a rudimentary map when you pay for your permit.

Open months/Best Travel: Mid-May to November. There may be thunderstorms in July and August, as well as snow in the winter.

Permits: Permits are required for all travel and camping on the reservation. You can order them by mail or purchase them at the Navajo Ranger Station in Cameron or online at https://navajonationparks.org/permits/backcountry-hiking-camping/.

Elevation Min/Max: 5388'/5795'

Mileage: variable, depending upon where you camp.

Unpaved Mileage: 16.2 to our campsite.

Time: 30 minutes.

Difficulty: Easy.

Remoteness Rating: 2/4

Services: none along trail. Snacks and gasoline available at The Gap on Highway 89. Tuba City is nearby.

Driving the Trail: Once past the cattle guard at 13-1, bear to the right to leave the housing area and get to open land. The roads are mostly graded and maintained and are marked by improvised sculptures. If you choose to discover your own road to the Salt Trail Canyon, or to explore a different area of the reservation, turn on the tracker on your GPS so you will be able to find your way back to the highway.

Road Information: Navajo Ranger Stations and Visitors Centers across the reservation. (Appendix B).

Restrictions: Permits required. No camping in populated areas.

Map References:

USGS:

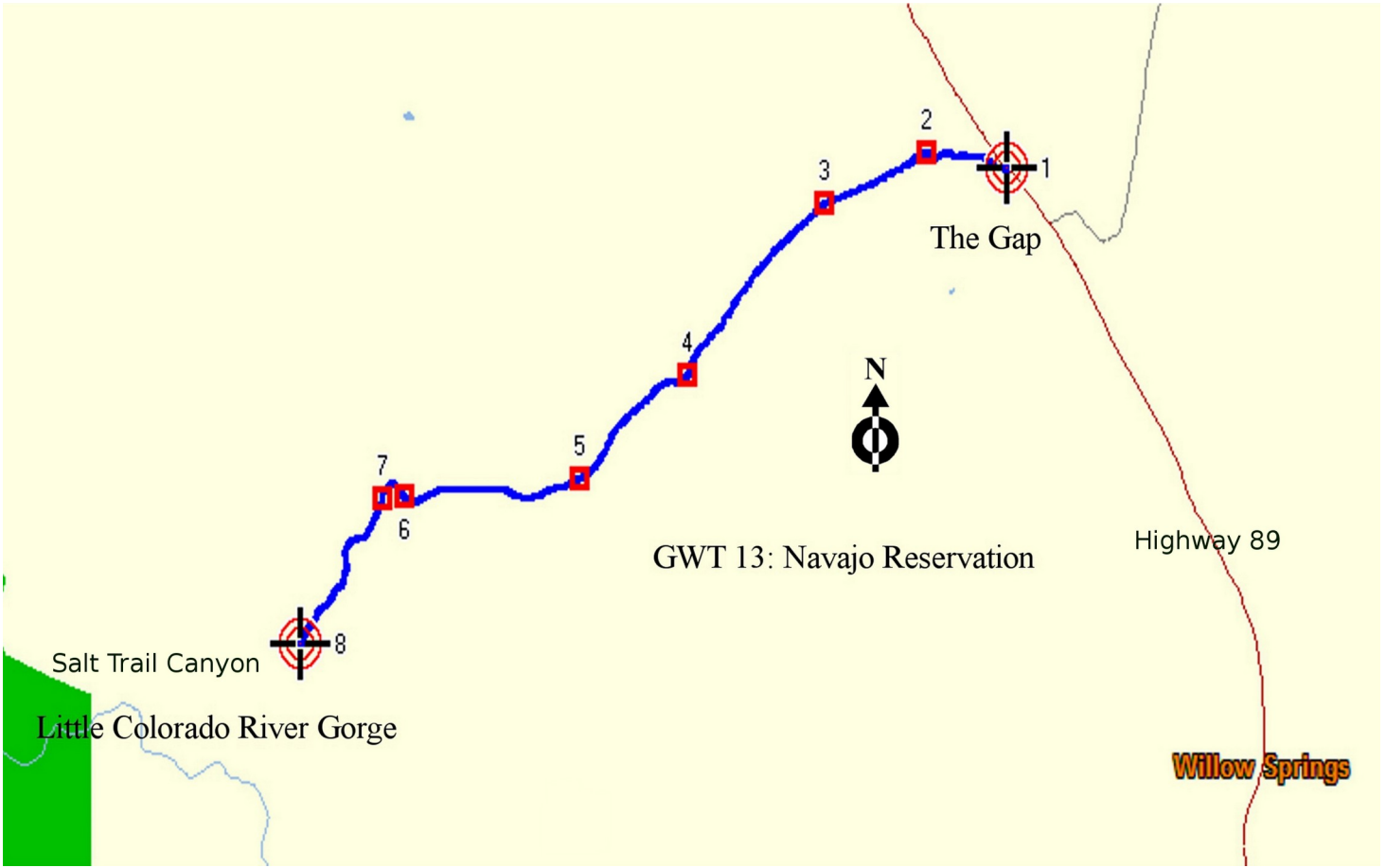
1:24,000: The Gap, Bodaway Mesa, Pillow Mt, Salt Trail Canyon.

1:100,000: Tuba City

1:250,000: Marble Canyon.

Terrain Navigator: Arizona North (AZ9)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 29, 63.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The Gap
N
GWT 13: Navajo Reservation
Highway 89
Salt Trail Canyon
Little Colorado River Gorge
Willow Springs

GWT 13: Camping on Indian Lands

13-1		**Arrive**	**N 36° 18.9318' W 111° 28.4198'**
1.5 ▼	0.0 ▼		Enter west of Hwy 89, 1.1 mi north of The Gap.
		16.1 ▲	*Exit onto Hwy 89. Turn left for GWT 11, right for Flagstaff.*
13-2			**N 36° 19.1333' W 111° 29.9398'**
2.0 ▼	1.5 ▼		Keep Hole Reservoir on left.
		14.6 ▲	*Keep Hole Reservoir on right.*
13-3			**N 36° 18.4838' W 111° 31.8808'**
3.5 ▼	3.5 ▼		Go straight.
		12.6 ▲	*Go straight.*
13-4			**N 36° 16.3211' W 111° 34.4471'**
2.5 ▼	6.9 ▼		Bear right.
		9.2 ▲	*Bear left.*
13-5			**N 36° 15.0059' W 111° 36.4855'**
3.2 ▼	9.5 ▼		Go straight.
		6.6 ▲	*Go Straight.*
13-6			**N 36° 14.7808' W 111° 39.8223'**
0.6 ▼	12.7 ▼		Go straight.
		3.4 ▲	*Go straight.*
13-7			**N 36° 14.7642' W 111° 40.2291'**
2.8 ▼	13.3 ▼		Turn left.
		2.8 ▲	*Turn right.*
13-8			**N 36° 12.9206' W 111° 41.7851'**
Arrive	16.1 ▼		Arrive at Salt Trail Canyon.
		0.0 ▲	*Leave Salt Trail Canyon.*

Camping on the Navajo Reservation

Salt Canyon Trail at Campsite

PHOENIX to MEXICO

The author with Mike Drawsky

Mike, an avid 4-Wheeler, is the editor of the Mesa 4 Wheelers' *Horn* Newsletter. His support and technical expertise was invaluable to me on our trips together through the southern sections of the Great Western Trail.

He generously contributed the cover photograph and many of the photographs that appear in the following seven sections of the guide.

Great Western Trail 1S:
Lower Sycamore Creek

On weekends and holidays Sycamore Creek can be heavily populated by campers, horseback and ATV riders as it winds its way through sandy washes, up steep hills, down a roller coaster, and over rocky mountain tops in the Tonto National Forest.

Camping is free and you will find numerous sites along the trail, but we do not advise pitching a tent in the north end of the trail since it is a popular area for target shooting. Traffic can be heavy here and accidents have occurred. Drive especially carefully in this area.

This trail is rocky and deeply rutted in areas and requires a 4-wheel drive, high clearance vehicle to negotiate the obstacles. Since there are steep, loose sandy hills, and numerous off-camber ridge trails and washouts, it can be difficult for inexperienced drivers. Not all of the southern trails are signed yet, but the work is in progress.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 1S-1: The staging area is off Bush Highway, (exit 199) east of Highway 87.

Waypoint 1S-29: The staging area is west of Highway 87, across from the staging areas for the Rolls and Butcher Jones Trail (GWT 2 in this guide), Cline Cabin Road, FR 143. Use the GPS coordinates in the tables for the exact location.

Roads Comprising Trail: FR 1847, FR 1848, FR 1852, FR 403, FR 1096, FR 1856 FR 1855, FR 402.

Open months/Best Travel: All year, but fall-winter-spring are the best seasons because of the intense summer heat.

Permits: Arizona State Land Permit. You will need a Tonto Pass to park or camp in a recreation area; you do not need it to drive or to camp on the trail.

Elevation Min/Max: 1594/2673

Paved Mileage: none

Unpaved Mileage: 16.1 miles

Travel Time: 3 hours.

Difficulty: easy to moderate depending upon conditions.

Remoteness: 2/4. The trail is well traveled on weekends when campers, horsemen, and target shooters flock to the area.

Services Available: Fountain Hills. There are none along trail.

Driving the Trail: 1S-1 staging area is off Bush Highway (exit 199), east of Highway 87. The trail from here to 1S-6 is mostly a rough, washed out road. At 1S-8 you climb out of Sycamore Creek where there is a large area used for camping and events by local off-road clubs. The trail to this point is highly broken up and has several steep points after which it becomes very sandy and narrow. Pin-striping is common.

The trail between 1S-10 and 1S-18 travels in Ironwood Wash; between 1S-10 and 1S-11 there is an unusual Saguaro cactus on the west side of the trail (see photograph on page 135). Its tips is growing in a fan-like, crested or cristate, form. These saguaros are rare and the cause of this malformation is unknown.

Sheep Mesa lies to the east of 1S-20 and 1S-21. From the south turn right onto FR 1856 through the gate where FR 1856 & FR 1096 join at 1S-20. From the north turn left after the gate with the GWT sign onto FR 1096. There is a campsite here.

At 1S-23 turn right onto FR 1855. From the north turn left onto FR 1856.

From 1S-27 the road is rough but wide and is traveled by regular cars and pick-ups on their way to the many target shooting ranges in the area.

Sycamore Creek Trail ends at 1S-29 at Highway 87.

Road Information and Contacts: Mesa Ranger District

Restrictions: You will need a Tonto Pass to park or camp in a recreation area; you do not need it to drive or to camp on the trail. ATV and motorcycle permits required.

Map References:

Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)

USGS Maps:

1:24,000: Adams Mesa.

1:100,000: Theodore Roosevelt Lake, Mesa.

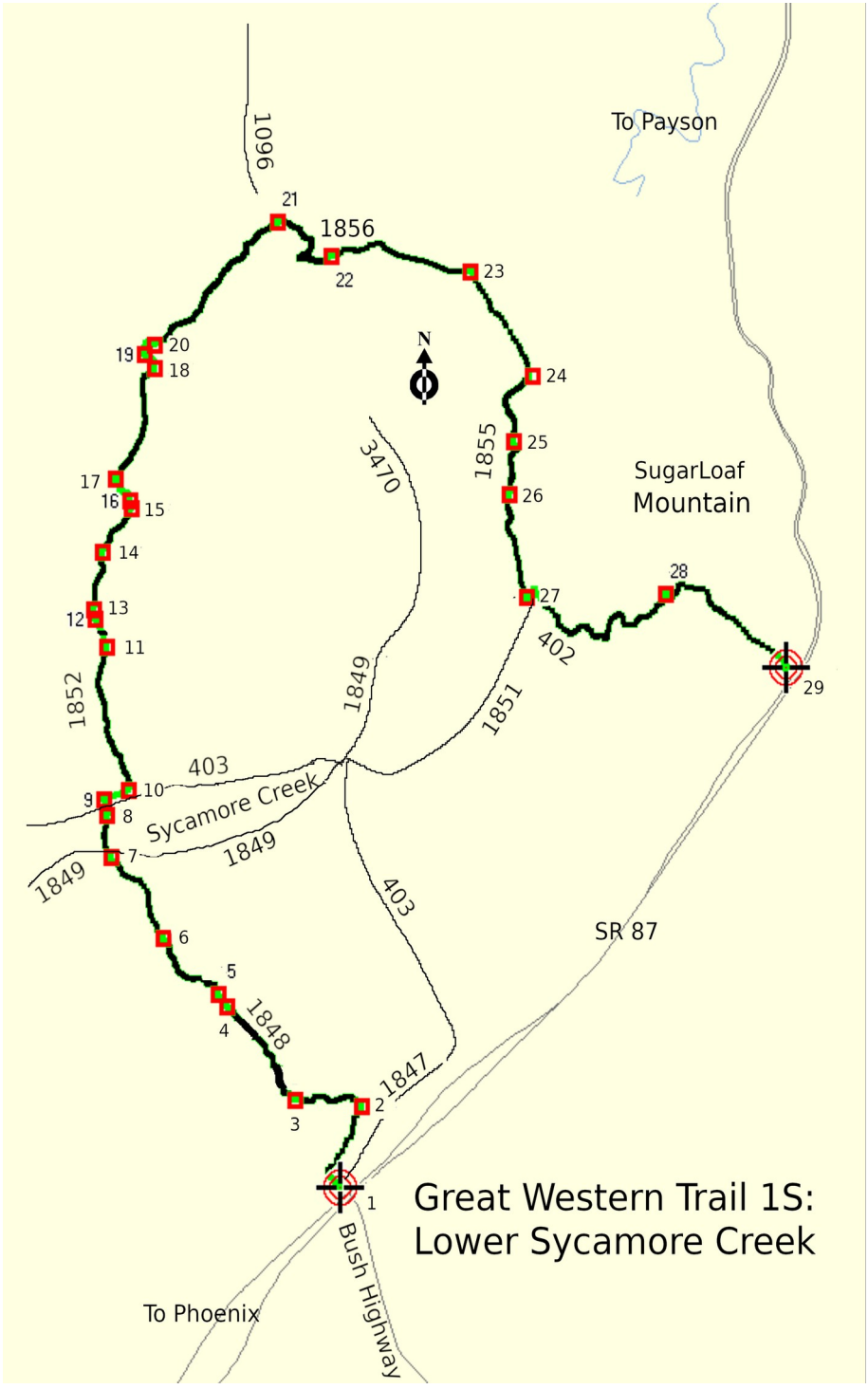
1:250,000: Mesa (AZ)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 41, 75.

Information board at 1S-29

USDA Forest Service Map: Tonto National Forest.

INFORMATION
PROTECT YOUR SHOOTING PRIVILEGES
Yes you can target shoot here, however keep in mind the following things:
Safety First—Use common sense. Never shoot towards other people, vehicles, structures, roads, trails, or livestock. Make sure you have a good target backstop of mostly dirt soil. Know what is beyond your target. Shooting from or across a road is against the law.
Prevent Resource Damage— Shooting trees and cactus or destroying any other vegetation is against the law. Shoot at paper or manufactured metal targets. Do not shoot glass, propane tanks, home appliances, car batteries, abandoned vehicles, toys, furniture, etc.
Always Clean Up— Dumping or littering on public lands is a crime. Always clean up your target area and remove ALL targets, spent casings or shotgun shells, trash, and debris from your firing position.
Fire— Check with USFS regarding current fire conditions. To prevent wildfire, do not shoot in areas with dry vegetation on hot, windy days. Shooting steel or rocks can increase the chance of creating sparks or hot shrapnel that can start a fire.
FOREST SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
TONTO National Forest


To Payson
1096
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1856
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SugarLoaf
Mountain
14
28
12
13
27
402
11
29
1852
1849
1851
403
10
9
8
Sycamore Creek
7
1849
1849
403
SR 87
6
5
4
1848
1847
2
3
1
Great Western Trail 1S:
Lower Sycamore Creek
Bush Highway
To Phoenix

GWT 1S: Lower Sycamore Creek Trail

1S-1			**N 33° 37.7143' W 111° 33.5711'**
0.7▼	0.0▼		From Beeline Hwy exit 199, Bush Hwy.
		16.1▲	*Exit across from Rolls staging area.*
1S-2			**N 33° 38.1895' W 111° 33.4135'**
0.5▼	0.7▼		FR 1847 marker turn left.
		15.5▲	*FR 1847 marker turn right.*
1S-3			**N 33° 38.2239' W 111° 33.9188'**
0.9▼	1.2▼		FR 1848 marker turn right.
		15.0▲	*FR 1848 marker. Bear left @ fork.*
1S-4			**N 33° 38.7708' W 111° 34.4264'**
0.1▼	2.1▼		Steep descent begins.
		14.1▲	*Steep ascent ends.*
1S-5			**N 33° 38.8453' W 111° 34.4996'**
0.6▼	2.2▼		FR 1848 on left after descent.
		14.0▲	*FR 1848 marker on right.*
1S-6			**N 33° 39.1676' W 111° 34.9176'**
0.7▼	2.8▼		FR 1848 marker on right. Bear right.
		13.3▲	*Bear left at fork. Stay right on 1852.*
1S-7			**N 33° 39.6435' W 111° 35.3121'**
0.3▼	3.6▼		Cross Sycamore Creek; FR 1848 ahead.
		12.6▲	*Exit Sycamore Creek.*
1S-8			**N 33° 39.8974' W 111° 35.3359'**
0.1▼	3.9▼		Climb out of river bed.
		12.3▲	*Cross Sycamore Creek.*
1S-9			**N 33° 39.9885' W 111° 35.3580'**
0.2▼	4.0▼		FR 1848 marker on left; turn rt on FR 403.
		12.2▲	*Turn left into Sycamore Creek.*
1S-10			**N 33° 40.0363' W 111° 35.1813'**
1.0▼	4.2▼		Turn left onto FR 1852.
		12.0▲	*OD: turn right onto FR 403.*
1S-11			**N 33° 40.8626' W 111° 35.3388'**
0.2▼	5.2▼		Bear left @ FR 1852 signpost.
		10.9▲	*FR 1852 signpost on left. Bear right.*

1S-12			**N 33° 41.0402' W 111° 35.4264'**
0.1▼	5.4▼		Bear left at FR 1852 signpost.
		10.7▲	*FR 1852 signpost on left. Bear right.*
1S-13			**N 33° 41.1008' W 111° 35.4428'**
0.4▼	5.5▼		Bear right.
		10.6▲	*Bear left.*
1S-14			**N 33° 41.4326' W 111° 35.3757'**
0.4▼	5.9▼		FR 1852 bear right.
		10.2▲	*Bear left.*
1S-15			**N 33° 41.6903' W 111° 35.1579'**
0.1▼	6.3▼		Bear left at fork. Stay on FR 1852.
		9.9▲	*Stay on FR 1852.*
1S-16			**N 33° 41.7395' W 111° 35.1651'**
0.2▼	6.4▼		Steep ascent.
		9.8▲	*Steep descent.*
1S-17			**N 33° 41.8673' W 111° 35.2773'**
0.9▼	6.6▼		Turn right after climb.
		9.6▲	*Turn left. Steep descent.*
1S-18			**N 33° 42.5124' W 111° 34.9789'**
0.1▼	7.4▼		Bear left onto FR 1852.
		8.7▲	*Stay on FR 1852.*
1S-19			**N 33° 42.5951' W 111° 35.0616'**
0.1▼	7.6▼		FR 1096 begins after gate.
		8.6▲	*FR 1096 bear right up hill.*
1S-20			**N 33° 42.6506' W 111° 34.9836'**
1.3▼	7.7▼		Junction FR 1856 & FR 1096. Follow FR 1856 to right through gate. Do not follow FR 1096.
		8.4▲	*Turn left after gate @ GWT signpost 1096.*
1S-21			**N 33° 43.3658' W 111° 34.0419'**
0.8▼	9.0▼		Roller coaster begins.
		7.1▲	*Roller coaster ends.*
1S-22			**N 33° 43.1673' W 111° 33.6465'**
1.1▼	9.8▼		Go straight.
		6.4▲	*Go straight.*

1S-23			**N 33° 43.0811' W 111° 32.5864'**
0.8▼	10.9▼		Turn right onto FR 1855.
		5.3▲	*Turn left onto FR 1856. Maintained by Tral*
1S-24			**N 33° 42.4672' W 111° 32.1442'**
0.6▼	11.7▼		Turn right.
		4.4▲	*Stay to left at fork.*
1S-25			**N 33° 42.0829' W 111° 32.2586'**
0.4▼	12.3▼		Turn left onto FR 1855.
		3.9▲	*Turn right along river bed.*
1S-26			**N 33° 41.7726' W 111° 32.2913'**
0.7▼	12.7▼		Camping area.
		3.5▲	*Camping area.*
1S-27			**N 33° 41.1667' W 111° 32.1650'**
1.5▼	13.4▼		Turn left on FR 402.
		2.7▲	*Turn right on FR 1851.*
1S-28			**N 33° 41.1882' W 111° 31.1104'**
1.2▼	14.9▼		Turn right.
		1.2▲	*Turn left.*
1S-29			**N 33° 40.7559' W 111° 30.1951'**
Arrive	16.1▼		End trail
		0.0▲	*Begin trail @ staging area.*

Crested Cactus

Climb along trail

1S-20

Sedan pulling into target range

Motorcycle and ATV traffic is often heavy on weekends and holidays. Drive safely!

Great Western Trail 2S:
Mineral Mountain Road

Mineral Mountain Road is a 27.5 mile trail located northeast of Florence, Arizona. It is in a popular 4-WD area which contains the Woodpecker/Ajax loop, Martinez Canyon, and the Coke Ovens. It is open all year except when military training exercises are in progress and red flags are flying. Stock 4-WD vehicles with good ground clearance should have no difficulty with this trail.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 2S-1: Turn south onto Mineral Mountain Road from US 60 between mileposts 215 and 216. Look for a flagpole to the south of US 60.

Waypoint 2S-25: Turn east onto Price Road from State Highway 79 between mileposts 136 and 137.

Roads Comprising Trail: Mineral Mountain Road, Box Canyon Road, Price Road.

Open months/Best Travel: It is best driven from March until October, although the desert can get very hot in the summer.

Permits: Arizona State Land Permit.

Elevation Min/Max: 1496'/2848'.

Paved Mileage: none.

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 27.5 miles

Travel Time: 3 hours.

Difficulty: easy to moderate.

Remoteness: 3/4.

Services Available: none along the trail. Fuel and supplies are available in Apache Junction and Florence.

Driving the Trail: (From north to south) There is a staging area at 2S-1 where you can air down. El Molino tank is to the right of 2S-2. Reymert Road crosses 2S-4 and continues westerly to join Cottonwood Canyon Road, which ends at State Highway 79. In 1876,

J. D. Reymert discovered a rich silver vein in the area and the town was named after him. The Reymert Mining Company worked the vein until the 1950s. Five thousand people lived there during its peak, which dwindled to 254 people according to the 1890 census. The last of residents left in the 1960s, and Reymert's buildings were bulldozed in the 1970s.

An Information Board-Public Land Map is at 2S-5.

At 2S-9 turn right. There may be a small cairn on the right to mark the turn. Cross the wash, drive up the hill, and at 2S-10 turn left and drive up the steep hill. Do not take Mineral Mountain Road which is straight ahead.

In spots this ridge road can be narrow, off-camber, and rutted, and requires careful driving. It is extremely remote and you should not drive it alone. There are beautiful views of the valleys and mountains between 2S-12 and 2S-13.

At 2S-14 turn right into the wash which is Box Canyon Road. On old abandoned cabin is at 2S-16, and a mini-waterfall is at 2S-17. A large campground is at 2S-20.

Although uncommon, Box Canyon is susceptible to flash floods and you cannot climb its steep walls should you get caught in one. Stay out of it if heavy rains are predicted. Flash floods are the number one cause of death due to natural events in Arizona, and can occur without warning, miles from where it is actually raining. The trail essentially ends at Price Road, 2S-22. This road is mostly unpaved, but it is wide, graded, and parallels the Southern Pacific RR tracks and the Gila River until it reaches State Highway 79.

Road Information and Contacts: Arizona State Trust Department and Gila District BLM.

Restrictions: none

Map References:

Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)

USGS Maps:

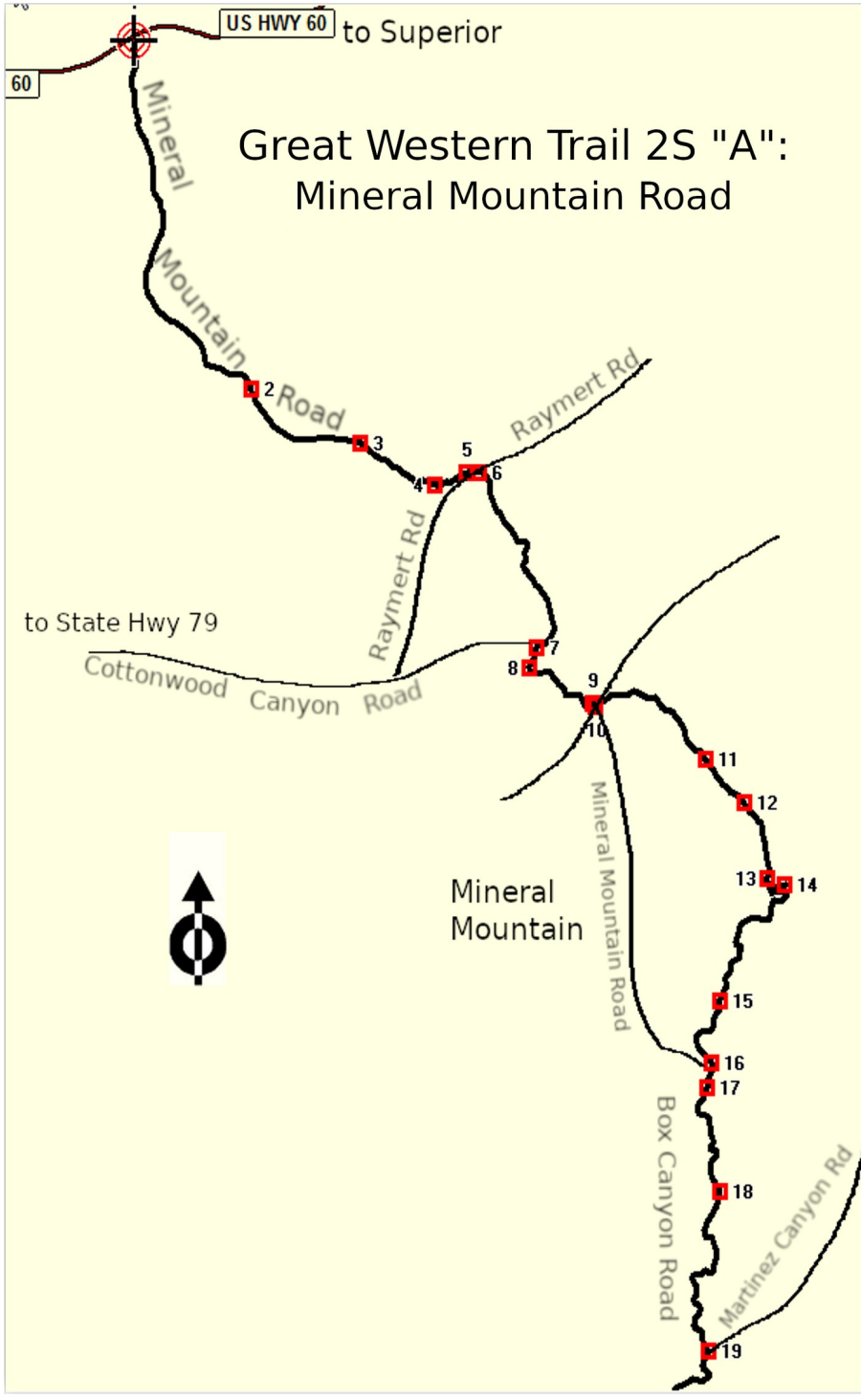
1:24,000: Mineral Mountain.

1:100,000: Mesa (AZ).

1:250,000: Mesa (AZ).

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 47, 81.

USDA Forest Service Map: Tonto National Forest. (northern section of trail).


US HWY 60
to Superior
60
Great Western Trail 2S "A":
Mineral Mountain Road
Mineral Mountain Road
2
Road
3
4
5
6
Raymert Rd
Raymert Rd
to State Hwy 79
Cottonwood Canyon Road
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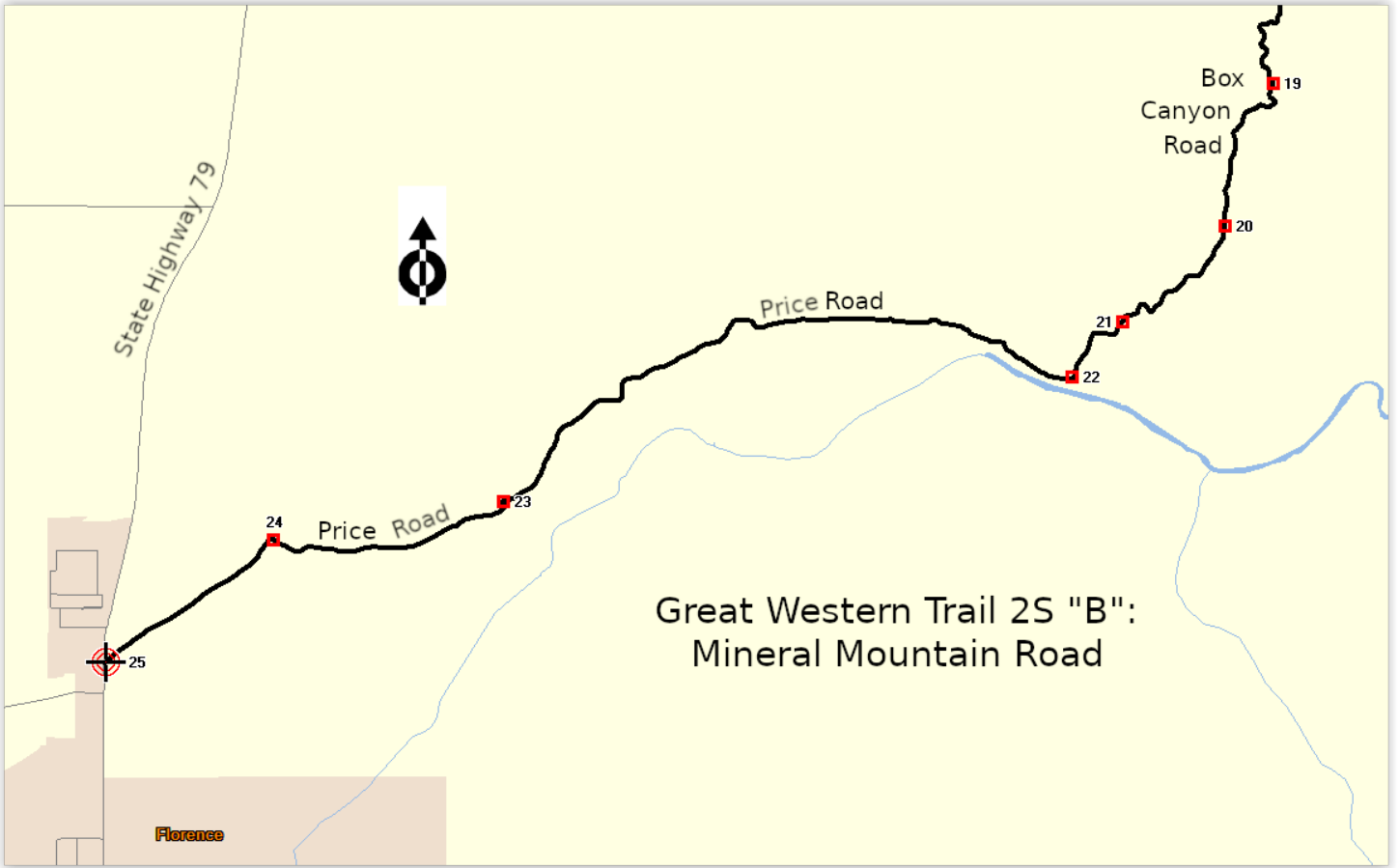
Mineral Mountain
Mineral Mountain Road
Box Canyon Road
Martinez Canyon Rd


Box
Canyon
Road
19
20
21
22
Price Road
State Highway 79
23
24
Price Road
25
Florence
Great Western Trail 2S "B":
Mineral Mountain Road

GWT 2S: Mineral Mountain Road

2S-1			**N 33 15.7472 W 111 16.5045**
2.8▼	0.0▼		Enter between mp 215/216 from US 60
		27.5▲	*Exit to US 60.*
2S-2			**N 33 13.6983 W 111 15.6093**
1.0▼	2.8▼		Go straight.
		24.7▲	*Go straight.*
2S-3			**N 33 13.3768 W 111 14.7776**
0.6▼	3.8▼		Go right.
		23.7▲	*Bear left at fork.*
2S-4			**N 33 13.1324 W 111 14.2138**
0.3▼	4.5▼		Go straight.
		23.1▲	*Bear right.*
2S-5			**N 33 13.2020 W 111 13.9682**
0.1▼	4.7▼		Information board.
		22.8▲	*Public Lands map.*
2S-6			**N 33 13.2094 W 111 13.8678**
1.5▼	4.8▼		Bear right and stay right.
		22.7▲	*Bear left.*
2S-7			**N 33 12.1736 W 111 13.4351**
0.1▼	6.3▼		Bear left.
		21.2▲	*Go straight.*
2S-8			**N 33 12.0587 W 111 13.4921**
0.6▼	6.5▼		Bear left.
		21.1▲	*Bear right.*
2S-9			**N 33 11.8448 W 111 13.0136**
0.0▼	7.1▼		Turn right.
		20.4▲	*Turn left.*
2S-10			**N 33 11.8289 W 111 12.9754**
1.1▼	7.1▼		Bear left.
		20.4▲	*Turn right.*
2S-11			**N 33 11.5128 W 111 12.1492**
0.4▼	8.2▼		Bear right.
		19.3▲	*Bear left.*

2S-12			**N 33 11.2624 W 111 11.8594**
0.6▼	*8.6*▼		Bear right.
		18.9▲	*Go straight.*
2S-13			**N 33 10.8096 W 111 11.6847**
0.3▼	9.2▼		Bear left.
		18.3▲	*Go straight.*
2S-14			**N 33 10.7786 W 111 11.5496**
1.1▼	9.5▼		Turn right into wash.
		18.0▲	*Turn left uphill.*
2S-15			**N 33 10.0930 W 111 12.0387**
0.6▼	10.7▼		Go left at fork.
		16.8▲	*Bear right.*
2S-16			**N 33 9.7314 W 111 12.1078**
0.2▼	11.2▼		Old cabin on right.
		16.3▲	*Old cabin on left.*
2S-17			**N 33 9.5860 W 111 12.1330**
0.9▼	11.4▼		Mini waterfall.
		16.1▲	*Mini waterfall.*
2S-18			**N 33 8.9703 W 111 12.0392**
1.4▼	12.3▼		Bear right.
		15.2▲	*Bear left onto Box Canyon Road*
MAP “B”			
2S-19			**N 33 8.0278 W 111 12.1263**
1.6▼	13.7▼		Turn right.
		13.8▲	*Turn left.*
2S-20			**N 33 6.9422 W 111 12.5671**
1.4▼	15.3▼		Entrance to campsite on left.
		12.2▲	*Entrance to campsite on right.*
2S-21			**N 33 6.2174 W 111 13.4891**
0.7▼	16.7▼		Go straight.
		10.8▲	*Bear right at fork.*
2S-22			**N 33 5.7969 W 111 13.9476**
6.0▼	17.4▼		Turn right.

2S-23			**N 33 4.8473 W 111 19.0889**
2.2▼	23.4▼		Turn left.
		4.1▲	*Turn right.*
2S-24			**N 33 4.5484 W 111 21.1635**
1.9▼	25.6▼		Turn left.
		1.9▲	*Turn right.*
2S-25			**N 33 3.6221 W 111 22.6846**
Arrive	27.5▼		Exit Highway 79
		0.0▲	*Turn onto Price Road*

Great Western Trail 3S:
Florence-Kelvin Loop

The trail is typical for the area, consisting mostly of packed earth, rutted roads, and sandy washes. It is easy to stray off the main trail, as there are numerous tracks leading out of the washes in every direction. Since the dry washes will become rivers in the rainy season, covering and changing the landmarks, expect to make at least one wrong turn before you exit the trail back at the Florence Kelvin Highway. The waypoints and map are accurate, however, and will guide you back to civilization. Do not drive this trail alone since it is very remote. Be sure to bring plenty of water and to fill your fuel tank in Florence before driving it.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 3S-1: From Florence, AZ travel south on Highway 79 about 2.0 miles to E. Florence Kelvin Highway. Turn east and then turn north on N. Whitlow Ranch Road at MP 9. Exit at MP 23 on the E. Florence Kelvin Highway and turn right to return to Florence.

Waypoint 3S-30: From Florence turn left on E. Florence Kelvin Highway and turn north at MP 23. Exit at MP 9 on the E. Florence Kelvin Highway and turn right to return to Florence.

Roads Comprising Trail: Whitlow Ranch Road, Hawkview Road, Cochran Road.

Open months/Best Travel: All year, but fall-winter-spring are the best seasons because of the intense summer heat.

Permits: Arizona State Land Permit.

Elevation Min/Max: 1575'/3114'

Paved Mileage: none.

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 23.9 miles.

Travel Time: 3 hours.

Difficulty: easy to moderate.

Remoteness: 3/4.

Services Available: none on trail. Fuel and supplies in Florence.

Driving the Trail: From E. Florence Kelvin Highway, turn north on N. Whitlow Ranch Road at MP 9 (3S-1). A desert tortoise lives near 3S-5 and you may see him on the road. A blue cross with Manuel “Bubby's” name on it is at 3S- 6.

A trail to the left at 3S-9 leads to the Ashurst Hayden Dam. Here the sand is deep and soft, the road short and steep.

At 3S-11, branches of the tamarisk tree, an invasive non-native tree that is spreading rapidly through the inter-mountain region of the western United States, may block the trail, as they did when we were there. We spent over an hour cutting them back so we could drive though the area, but since the tamarisk can grow 9 to 12 feet in a single season, bring along branch loppers and hand saws. You might need them.

If you brought your lunch and need a break from the drive, turn left at 3S-13 and drive to the Gila River. There are plenty of shade trees in the area. Turn right at 3S-13 to continue on the trail.

Cochran Road at 3S-22 and 3S-23 leads to the now non-existent town of Cochran, near the Gila River and Santa Fe railway. The town was named after it's first post master, John S. Cochran, and served the local mines, railway and ranchers. Today there is nothing left of the town site.

There is a berm at 3S-24. On prior trips the driver of silver Jeep in the picture would drive along its ridge to avoid the waterhole on the other side. A tree now encroaching on the narrow rim could cause a roll-over, so I recommend you drive around it to the right where you will find several short trails crossing the watering hole; choose the best, and then turn right when you return to the main trail.

Power lines are at 3S-28, and will be overhead until 3S-29.

The trail ends at 3S-30 on the E. Florence Kelvin Highway, MP 23. Turn right to return to Florence.

Road Information and Contacts: Arizona State Trust Department and Gila District BLM.

Restrictions: none.

Map References:

Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)
USGS Maps:
1:24,000: North Butte.
1:100,000: Mesa.
1:250,000: Mesa (AZ)
Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 47, 81.

Ashurst Hayden Dam

Cochran
Ashurst Hayden Dam
Gila River
South Butte
Cochran Road
Box O Wash
Donnelley Wash
Substation
Great Western Trail 3S:
Florence-Kelvin Loop
Florence
Kelvin
Highway
to Florence
1
2
3
4
5
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30

GWT 3S: Florence-Kelvin Loop

3S-1			**N 32 59.2529 W 111 12.9523**
3.1▼	0.0▼		Turn left at MP 9, Whitlow Ranch Road.
		23.9▲	*Turn right for Florence.*
3S-2			**N 33 1.8682 W 111 12.8962**
0.5▼	3.1▼		Turn left on Hawkview Rd
		20.8▲	*Turn right onto Whitlow Ranch Rd*
3S-3			**N 33 1.8975 W 111 13.4160**
1.2▼	3.6▼		Turn right through gate.
		20.3▲	*Turn left after gate onto Hawkview Rd.*
3S-4			**N 33 2.8758 W 111 13.6218**
1.2▼	4.8▼		Bear left.
		19.1▲	*Bear right.*
3S-5			**N 33 3.6799 W 111 14.2308**
1.0▼	6.0▼		Bear right.
		17.9▲	*Go straight.*
3S-6			**N 33 4.5047 W 111 14.4515**
1.5▼	7.0▼		Manuel “Bubby” marker.
		16.9▲	*Manuel “Bubby” grave site.*
3S-7			**N 33 5.5848 W 111 15.0519**
0.5▼	8.5▼		Go right at “y”
		15.4▲	*Turn left onto N. Whitlow Ranch Road.*
3S-8			**N 33 5.8200 W 111 14.7661**
0.1▼	9.0▼		Go to right at “y”
		14.9▲	*Turn left.*
3S-9			**N 33 5.8421 W 111 14.7075**
0.5▼	9.1▼		Road to left goes to dam, bear right.
		14.9▲	*Bear left.*
3S-10			**N 33 5.6143 W 111 14.3215**
0.3▼	9.6▼		Wash – go straight.
		14.4▲	*Wash – go straight.*
3S-11			**N 33 5.6121 W 111 14.0147**
1.1▼	9.9▼		Tamerask trees, low branches.
		14.1▲	*Tamerask trees, low branches.*
3S-12			**N 33 5.0744 W 111 13.1792**
0.3▼	11.0▼		Go straight.
		13.0▲	*Bear right.*
3S-13			**N 33 4.9893 W 111 12.8522**
0.1▼	11.3▼		Turn right and diagonally cross wash.
		12.6▲	*Bear left.*

3S-14			**N 33 4.9347 W 111 12.8128**
0.4▼	11.4▼		Turn left.
		12.6▲	*Turn right and diagonally cross wash.*
3S-15			**N 33 4.8875 W 111 12.3884**
1.3▼	11.8▼		Bear right.
		12.1▲	*Bear left.*
3S-16			**N 33 4.5800 W 111 11.5798**
0.7▼	13.1▼		Bear left.
		10.9▲	*Bear right.*
3S-17			**N 33 4.7617 W 111 11.0444**
0.1▼	13.7▼		Enter Donnelly Wash.
		10.2▲	*Exit Donnelly Wash.*
3S-18			**N 33 4.8507 W 111 10.9541**
0.6▼	13.9▼		Turn right out of Donnelly Wash.
		10.1▲	*Turn left into Donnelly Wash.*
3S-19			**N 33 4.4390 W 111 10.7444**
0.2▼	14.5▼		Turn left.
		9.5▲	*Turn right.*
3S-20			**N 33 4.3146 W 111 10.5908**
0.1▼	14.7▼		Turn left.
		9.3▲	*Turn right.*
3S-21			**N 33 4.3781 W 111 10.5862**
1.0▼	14.8▼		Turn right out of wash.
		9.2▲	*Turn left into wash.*
3S-22			**N 33 4.2626 W 111 9.7260**
0.2▼	15.7▼		Turn left onto Cochran Road.
		8.2▲	*Turn right.*
3S-23			**N 33 4.4342 W 111 9.6522**
3.0▼	15.9▼		Turn right at windmill.
		8.0▲	*Turn left.*
3S-24			**N 33 3.7076 W 111 7.0185**
0.8▼	18.9▼		Cattle dam go to right around it.
		5.0▲	*Turn left.*
3S-25			**N 33 3.8763 W 111 6.3858**
0.7▼	19.7▼		Turn right.
		4.3▲	*Turn left.*
3S-26			**N 33 3.7052 W 111 5.7446**
1.6▼	20.4▼		Turn right.
		3.6▲	*Turn left.*

3S-27			**N 33 3.1267 W 111 4.3866**
0.4▼	22.0▼		Go straight.
		1.9▲	*Bear left.*
3S-28			**N 33 3.0553 W 111 3.9974**
0.9▼	22.4▼		Go through gate and turn left under power lines.
		1.5▲	*Turn right after gate.*
3S-29			**N 33 3.1897 W 111 3.1815**
0.7▼	23.3▼		Turn right after gate.
		0.7▲	*Turn left into gate.*
3S-30			**N 33 2.7293 W 111 2.7764**
Arrive	23.9▼		Exit FK Rd, MP 23. Turn right for Florence.
		0.0▲	*Turn left at MP 23 to begin trail.*

Watering hole at 3S-24

3S-5

3S-6

Ashurst Hayden Dam

3S-11

3S-12

3S-13

Off-camber section of trail.

Great Western Trail 4S:
Barkerville Road to Tucson Wash Road

The trail consists mostly of packed earth, rutted roads, sandy washes, and climbs and descents of varying difficulty. It is remote and you should travel it in a group of four or five experienced off-roaders. *Do not drive it alone!* This is especially important if you are a new driver with little experience and scarce resources. On the trip I took with seven other very experienced drivers, I bent my front track bar on my Jeep, not an easy task; another driver had his transfer case fail, leaving him without 4-wheel drive. We were able to straighten my track bar with a bottle jack, an angle iron, duct tape, and a few husky men bouncing on my front bumper, but unfortunately the other member of our group had to return home. On a prior drive of this trail, the rear track bar on our lead Jeep broke. That vehicle had to be loaded onto a flatbed trailer and carted home. *Be very careful on this trail!*

As in the case of almost every trail in the desert, it is easy to stray off the main trail, as numerous tracks lead out of the washes in every direction. Stay on the road that looks most traveled. The waypoints will indicate the correct road to take in the areas of forks, or "Ys". Dry washes will become rivers in the rainy season, covering and changing the landmarks; the waypoints and map and will guide you back to civilization.

The Arizona Trail is a non-motorized trail, however in this area it travels on a two-lane road along with the Great Western Trail from waypoint 4S-11 to 4S-23. Follow the Arizona Trail markers between these waypoints if you are unsure about your location since there are no Great Western Trail markers in this area at this time. We expect them to be installed in the near future.

Be sure to bring plenty of water and to fill your fuel tank in Florence before starting your drive. There are no services on the trail.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 4S-1: From Florence, AZ drive about 2 miles south on Highway 79 and turn east on the E. Florence Kelvin Highway. Turn south on the Barkerville Road between mileposts 14 and 15. To arrive at AZ 77, at 4S-26 exit left onto the Tucson Wash Road, then turn right on Tiger Mine Road, (pass the Arizona Trail entrance on the right in the staging area). Exit onto AZ 77 at milepost 105 and turn right for Oracle and Tucson.

Waypoint 4S-26: From Tuscon or Oracle drive AZ 77 milepost 105 and turn onto Tiger Mine Road. Turn left on Tucson Wash Road and enter the gate to the right at waypoint 4S-26. The gate in front of you leads to private property. Exit the trail on E. Florence Kelvin Highway and turn left for Florence.

Roads Comprising Trail: Barkerville Road, Freeman Road, unnamed Jeep trails, Tucson Wash.

Open months/Best Travel: All year, but fall/spring are the best seasons because of the intense summer heat.

Permits: Arizona State Land Permit.

Elevation Min/Max: 2607'/4035'

Paved Mileage: none.

Unpaved (total) Mileage: 45.8 miles.

Travel Time: 4.5 hours (7.5 hours with lunch and repairs).

Difficulty: easy to difficult.

Remoteness: 4/4.

Services Available: none on trail. Fuel and supplies are available in Florence and Oracle.

Driving the Trail: From E. Florence Kelvin Highway, turn right onto the Baskerville Road at waypoint 4S-1 between mileposts 14 and 15. This is a wide, well maintained but dusty road. It is graded, packed sand, with no washboard sections on the day I drove it. At the Barkerville-Freeman intersection, 4S-2, turn left onto N. Freeman Road. At waypoint 4S-3, the Willow Springs Road intersection, stay left on the N. Freeman Road.

The Arizona National Scenic Trail is open to non-motorized use only.
A Recreation Permit from the Arizona State Land Department is required only if you travel outside the 15-foot trail corridor.
Please respect the ranchers that live and work in this area. Leave all gates as you find them unless signed otherwise.
Water is scarce in the desert and you must bring all the water you need with you. Electric water fence shocks will and stock tanks are the private property of the ranching operations and may only be used with the owner's consent.
Arizona is rich with natural and cultural resources. Please leave what you find for the benefit of past, present and future generations.
Pinal County Thanks our Trailhead Development Partners and Volunteers:
U.S. Forest Service
Arizona Trail Association
Kelamazoo Materials Co.
Cassidy Line Riders of Catalina
AZT
6375N2
4S-4 Arizona Trail

4S-4 is the Freeman Road Trailhead. Turn left to enter, then

turn left after you exit it. There is an entrance to the Arizona Trail here. At 4S-5 N. Freeman Road becomes E. Freeman Road. You will pass the entrance to the Cactus Hill Ranch further on.

At 4S-6 turn right. The road narrows from this point onward. There are numerous trails leading from it, but stay on the main, well-traveled road. There is a windmill on the left at Antelope Well, 4S-7. The road in the wash is mostly level with some minor climbs and descents.

A corral is on the right at 4S-8, after which there are steeper inclines. At 4S-9, bear left at the fork. At 4S-10 turn left at the fork, then stay left. The Grand Enchantment, Arizona, and Great Western Trails intersect at 4S-11. At 4S-13 bear right onto the Arizona Trail, then turn left at the windmill and go up the hill. The road deteriorates, sometimes very noticeably from this point. Rolling hills, packed sand, rutted and washed out in sections, loose rock, and mild off-camber tracts will be commonplace.

At 4S-16 turn right into Bloodsucker Wash.

At 4S-20 cross Camp Grant Wash. This may be a good place to stop for lunch. There are a few trees along the bank large enough to offer shade to a party of 6-7 people. The road becomes rougher from here on, with long, steep climbs and descents, most of which are on rutted and washed out. Careful wheel placement is necessary. On one of them I bent my front track bar, as described above, and on another, a 4-wheel dive Jeep became a 2-wheel drive vehicle.

At 4S-23 turn left through the gate. The Arizona Trail splits off here, just to the right of the gate.

At 4S-25, turn left into Tucson Wash, and at 4S-26, exit the gate and turn left on Tucson Wash Road.

Road Information and Contacts: Arizona State Trust Department.

Restrictions: none.

Map References:

Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)

USGS Maps

1:24,000: Ninetysix Hills NE, Ninetysix Hills SE, Black Mountain, Putnam Wash, North of Oracle, Mammoth (AZ)

1:100.000: Casa Grande, Mammoth.

1:250.000: Tucson (AZ)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 47, 81.

4S-11 Junction of three trails

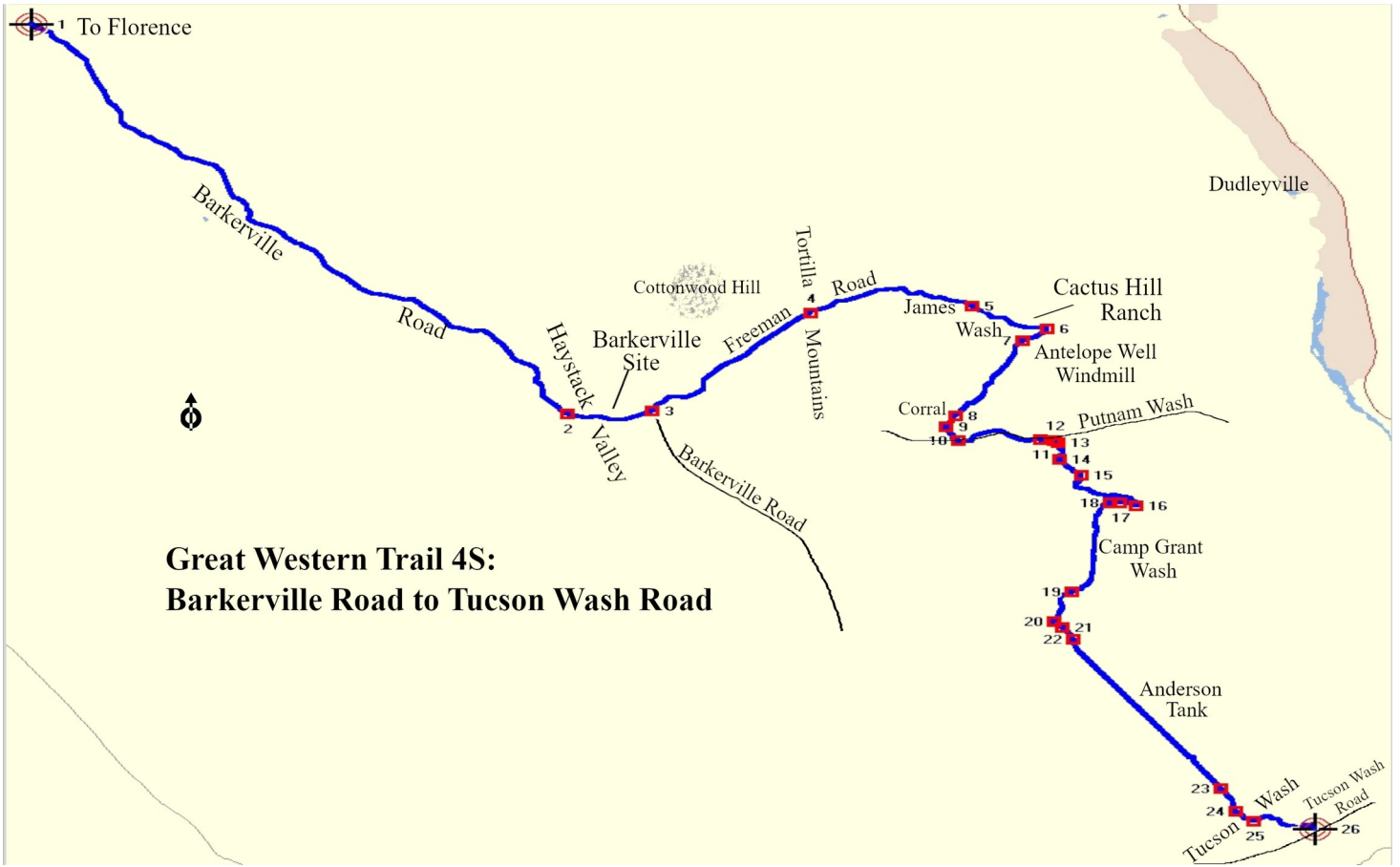
4S-23 Arizona Tr to right of gate

Views of trail

4S-4 Arizona Trail entrance

Camping at the end of the trail

Lunch near 4S-20


1 To Florence
Barkerville Road
Haystack Valley
Barkerville Site
Cottonwood Hill
Freeman Road
Tortilla Mountains
Barkerville Road
James Wash
Cactus Hill Ranch
Antelope Well Windmill
Corral
Putnam Wash
Camp Grant Wash
Anderson Tank
Tucson Wash
Tucson Wash Road
Dudleyville
Great Western Trail 4S:
Barkerville Road to Tucson Wash Road

GWT 4S: Barkerville Road to Tucson Wash Road

4S-1			**N 32° 58.4741' W 111° 7.4843'**
14.8▼	0.0▼		Turn right on Barkerville Road
		45.8▲	*Turn left on Florence-Kelvin Highway*
4S-2			**N 32° 50.0436' W 110° 57.5271'**
1.6▼	14.8▼		Turn left on N. Freeman Road
		31.0▲	*Turn right on Barkerville Road*
4S-3			**N 32° 50.0911' W 110° 55.9431'**
4.1▼	16.4▼		Stay left on N Freeman Road
		29.4▲	*Stay right on N. Freeman Road*
4S-4			**N 32° 52.2229' W 110° 52.9882'**
3.3▼	20.5▼		Staging area/trailhead to left.
		25.3▲	*Staging area/trailhead to right.*
4S-5			**N 32° 52.3747' W 110° 49.9912'**
1.6▼	23.8▼		N Freeman Road becomes E Freeman Road
		22.0▲	*E Freeman Road becomes N Freeman Rd*
4S-6			**N 32° 51.8797' W 110° 48.5741'**
0.6▼	25.4▼		Turn right.
		20.4▲	*Turn left.*
4S-7			**N 32° 51.6103' W 110° 49.0385'**
2.4▼	26.0▼		Windmill on left.
		19.8▲	*Windmill on right.*
4S-8			**N 32° 50.0041' W 110° 50.2792'**
0.3▼	28.4▼		Corral on right.
		17.4▲	*Corral on left.*
4S-9			**N 32° 49.7647' W 110° 50.4682'**
0.5▼	28.7▼		Bear left at fork.
		17.1▲	*Go straight.*
4S-10			**N 32° 49.4659' W 110° 50.2480'**
1.7▼	29.2▼		Turn left at fork.
		16.6▲	*Go straight.*
4S-11			**N 32° 49.4719' W 110° 48.6953'**
0.3▼	30.9▼		Junction of Grand Enchantment, Great
		14.9▲	Western, and Arizona Trails.

4S-12			**N 32° 49.4677' W 110° 48.4373'**
0.1▼	31.2▼		Bear right.
		14.6▲	*Go straight.*
4S-13			**N 32° 49.4269' W 110° 48.3869'**
0.5▼	31.3▼		Bear right onto Arizona Trail.
		14.5▲	*Bear left.*
4S-14			**N 32° 49.0615' W 110° 48.3437'**
0.6▼	31.8▼		Bear left at fork.
		14.0▲	*Go straight.*
4S-15			**N 32° 48.7171' W 110° 47.9459'**
1.7▼	32.4▼		Cross wash.
		13.4▲	*Cross wash.*
4S-16			**N 32° 48.0427' W 110° 46.9367'**
0.3▼	34.1▼		Turn right into Bloodsucker Wash.
		11.7▲	*Turn left.*
4S-17			**N 32° 48.1207' W 110° 47.1995'**
0.2▼	34.4▼		Bear left at fork.
		11.4▲	*Go straight.*
4S-18			**N 32° 48.1027' W 110° 47.4035'**
2.6▼	34.6▼		Bear left at fork.
		11.2▲	*Go straight.*
4S-19			**N 32° 46.1779' W 110° 48.1187'**
0.9▼	37.2▼		Bear left.
		8.6▲	*Go straight.*
4S-20			**N 32° 45.5383' W 110° 48.4487'**
0.2▼	38.1▼		Turn left in wash.
		7.7▲	*Turn right out of wash.*
4S-21			**N 32° 45.4267' W 110° 48.3011'**
0.4▼	38.3▼		Bear left at fork.
		7.5▲	*Go straight.*
4S-22			**N 32° 45.1507' W 110° 48.0899'**
4.7▼	38.7▼		Go straight.
		7.1▲	*Bear right.*
4S-23			**N 32° 41.9208' W 110° 45.3420'**
0.6▼	*43.4▼*		Turn left through gate.
		2.4▲	*Turn right after gate.*

4S-24			**N 32° 41.4324' W 110° 45.0768'**
0.5▼	*44.0*▼		Turn into wash.
		1.8▲	*Leave wash.*
4S-25			**N 32° 41.2176' W 110° 44.7163'**
1.3▼	*44.5*▼		Turn left into Tucson Wash.
		1.3▲	*Turn right.*
4S-26			**N 32° 41.0604' W 110° 43.5949'**
Arrive	45.8▼		Exit gate onto Tucson Wash Road.
Start		*0.0*▲	*Enter gate into Tucson Wash.*

Great Western Trail 5S:
Oracle to Reddington Road

This is one of the easiest sections of the Great Western Trail to drive, one you may share with an RV. It is primitive, and in spots narrow, unnamed, and bumpy on loose gravel, but should not present problems for experienced drivers, Airing down your tires, which I suggest you always do on forest roads, will make your drive more comfortable and save wear and tear on your vehicle.

Sara Lemmon

The destination is Mount Lemmon, a retreat usually 30 degrees cooler than Tucson in the summer. It is in the Santa Catalina Range, surrounded by the Coronado National Forest. Here you can explore various trails and rent a cabin for a weekend getaway in the pines. Mount Lemmon's summit of 9,159 feet makes it the highest point in the Santa Catalina Mountains. It was named for botanist Sara Plummer Lemmon, who climbed to the mountain top in 1881 with her husband, John Gill Lemmon, a self-educated botanist, while cataloging desert and mountain plants. Lemmon met Sara while visiting Santa Barbara and they married in 1880. On their return to California, they continued their botanical activities, ultimately establishing the Lemmon Herbarium, now part of U C Berkeley's University.

John Gill Lemmon was born in Lima, Michigan on January 2, 1832, and enlisted in the Union Army in June, 1862. He was captured by the Confederates and held as a prisoner of war in the notorious

Andersonville prison. After being freed on March 1, 1865, he returned to teaching, acquiring an interest in botany that gave him solace from the horrors of prison. Eventually, he became known as "the botanist of the West". He died on November 24, 1908, in Oakland, California, preceding Sara in death by 15 years. He and Sara are buried at Mountain View Cemetery, in Oakland.

Sara was responsible for the designation of the golden poppy as the state flower of California in 1903 A number of plants are also named in her honor, including the genus *Plummera.*

A USAF radar base and an emergency tracking station for landing the Space Shuttle at White Sands Missile Range were once at the peak of Mount Lemmon, however the facilities have since been given to the United States Forest Service. The area and buildings of the Mount Lemmon Station Observatory are now leased by the University of Arizona and its telescopes are used for astronomical research by the Mount Lemmon Sky Center, the University of Arizona, and the University of Minnesota.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 5S-1: Turn onto Mount Lemmon Highway from E. American Avenue in Oracle.

Waypoint 5S-15: From AZ 77, exit at S. Veterans Memorial Boulevard (milepost 109), drive southeast to Black Hills Mine Road, and turn right just before the road ends.

Roads Comprising Trail: E. Mount Lemmon Highway, S. Mount Lemmon Road, Mount Lemmon Road, NF 38, N. Control Road, Black Hills Mine Road.

Open months/Best Travel: All year.

Permits: Arizona State Land Permit.

Elevation Min/Max: 3,010'/4,904'

Total Mileage: 25.2 miles

Paved Mileage: 6.5 miles

Unpaved Mileage: 18.7 miles.

Travel Time: 2.5 hours.

Difficulty: easy.

Remoteness: 2/4.

Services Available: none on trail. Fuel and supplies in Oracle.

Driving the Trail: Turn into E. Mount Lemmon Road from E. American Avenue at 5S-1. The road is paved until 5S-2 where there is

a sign warning that you are entering a primitive road. It is wide initially and maintained, but it is packed sand with patches of washboard.

5S-7 Water tower

Peppersauce Campground is at 5S-3. This is a fee area, and has parking for group and single camping. After the campground the winding road narrows, is uneven, and maintenance is limited. At 5S-5, S. Mount Lemmon Road becomes Mount Lemmon Road. At 5S-6 the road becomes more rutted, but is still easy to drive. Airing down your tires will make your drive more comfortable and safer, and if you have not done so before starting this trail, the water tank at 5S-7 is a good place to do it.

There are two graves on the left at 5S-9, about 10 yards from the road. At 5S-14, Black Hills Mine Road, the road improves, is maintained and becomes two lane.

This trail ends at 5S-15, S. Veterans Memorial Boulevard. Turn left here for AZ 77. If you plan on combining this trail with Great Western Trail 6S: *South Sonoita Highway to the Empire Ranch*, approximately 80 miles away on a long stretch of unpaved and possibly very dusty road, continue on Reddington Road for about 3 miles, turn right at the "T" and drive south to Benson. Take I-10 East for Tucson to exit 281, AZ 83 south for Sonoita/Patagonia. Approximately one mile from where the I-10 east and west exits join AZ 83, turn left onto a dirt road under the power lines, cross Charolais Road and bear right at the fork. There is a camping area on the left about 1.3 miles from the highway.

Road Information and Contacts: Arizona State Trust Department.

Restrictions: none.

Map References:

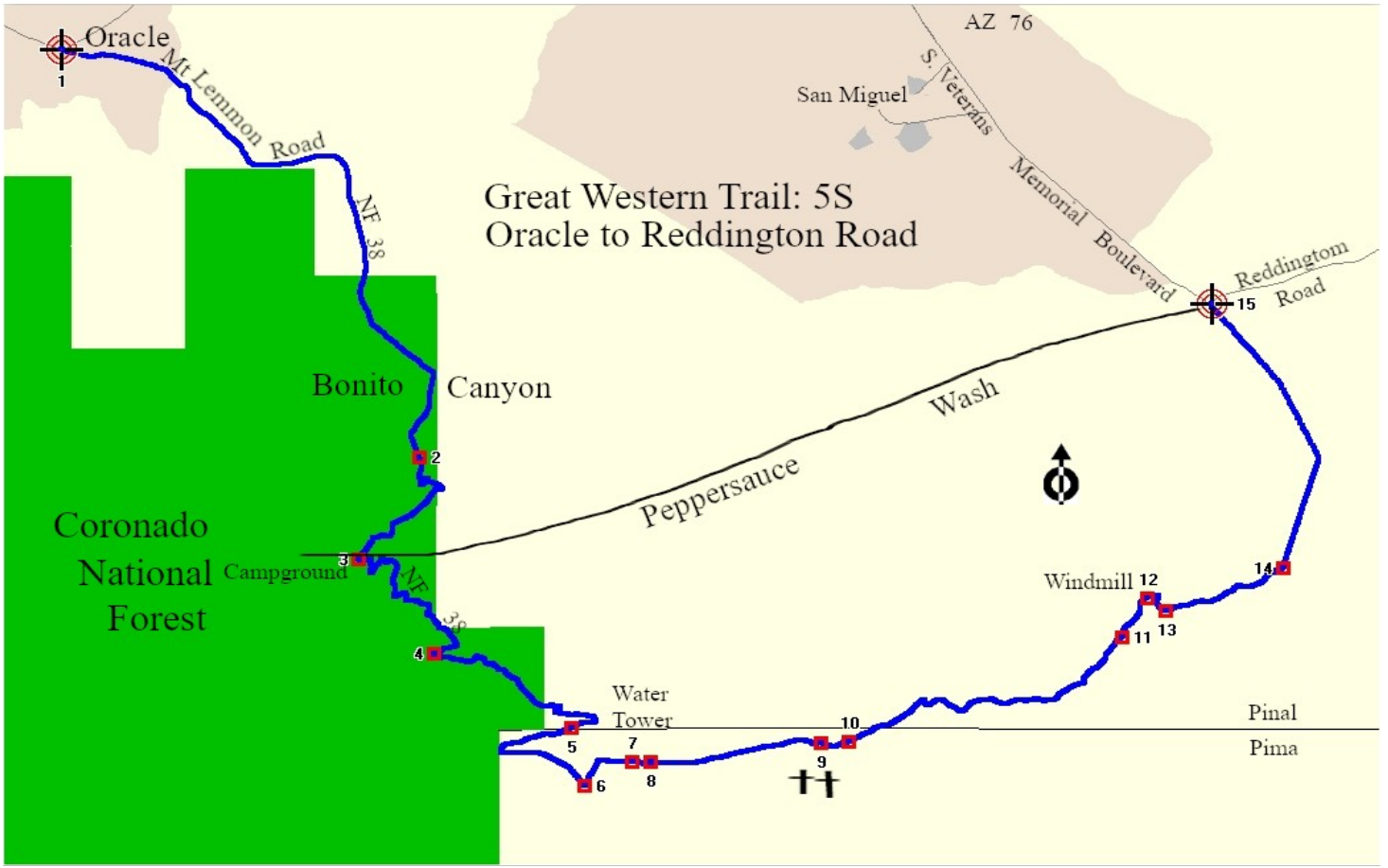
Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)

USGS Maps:

1:24,000: Oracle, Camp Bonito, Peppersauce Wash.

1:100,000: Mammoth.
1:250,000: Tucson.
Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 48, 82.

From left: Brian Keller, Gary Keller, Author, Larry Blau, Dave Rupel, Norm Clark


Great Western Trail: 5S
Oracle to Reddington Road
Oracle
1
Mt Lemmon Road
NF 38
AZ 76
San Miguel
S. Veterans Memorial Boulevard
Reddington Road
15
Bonito Canyon
2
Peppersauce Wash
Coronado National Forest
Campground
3
NF 38
4
Windmill
12
14
11
13
Water Tower
5
7
6
8
9
10
Pinal
Pima

GWT 5S: Oracle to Reddington Road

5S-1			**N 32° 36.5980' W 110° 45.9037'**
6.5▼	0.0▼		Turn right onto E. Mt. Lemmon Hwy
		25.2▲	*Turn left for Oracle*
5S-2			**N 32° 33.1281' W 110° 42.4690'**
1.8▼	6.5▼		Unpaved road begins.
		18.7▲	*Unpaved road ends.*
5S-3			**N 32° 32.2618' W 110° 43.0462'**
2.2▼	8.3▼		Peppersauce Campground entrance.
		17.0▲	*Peppersauce Campground entrance.*
5S-4			**N 32° 31.4553' W 110° 42.3244'**
2.2▼	10.4▼		Narrow bridge.
		14.8▲	*Narrow bridge.*
5S-5			**N 32° 30.8259' W 110° 41.0069'**
1.6▼	12.6▼		S Mt. Lemmon Rd becomes Mt. Lemmon Rd
		12.6▲	*Mt. Lemmon Rd becomes S Mt. Lemmon Rd*
5S-6			**N 32° 30.3393' W 110° 40.8845'**
0.6▼	14.3▼		Turn left.
		11.0▲	*Turn right onto Mt. Lemmon Hwy*
5S-7			**N 32° 30.5439' W 110° 40.4285'**
0.2▼	14.9▼		Water tower.
		10.4▲	*Water tower.*
5S-8			**N 32° 30.5379' W 110° 40.2431'**
1.8▼	15.1▼		Gate and corral.
		10.2▲	*Gate and corral.*
5S-9			**N 32° 30.6975' W 110° 38.6070'**
0.3▼	16.9▼		Two graves on left.
		8.4▲	*Two graves on right.*
5S-10			**N 32° 30.7137' W 110° 38.3370'**
3.1▼	17.2▼		View.
		8.1▲	*View.*
5S-11			**N 32° 31.6000' W 110° 35.7223'**
0.5▼	20.3▼		Bear left at fork.
		5.0▲	*Go straight.*

5S-12			**N 32° 31.9352' W 110° 35.4691'**
0.3▼	20.8▼		Windmill and corral.
		4.5▲	*Windmill and corral.*
5S-13			**N 32° 31.8232' W 110° 35.2891'**
1.2▼	21.1▼		Bear left.
		4.2▲	*Bear right.*
5S-14			**N 32° 32.1895' W 110° 34.1684'**
2.9▼	22.3▼		Turn left onto Black Hills Road.
		2.9▲	*Turn right.*
5S-15			**N 32° 34.4273' W 110° 34.8511'**
Arrive	25.2▼		Trail ends at Reddington Road.
Start		*0.0▲*	*Trail begins at Reddington Road.*

Inscription on one of the crosses at 5S-9

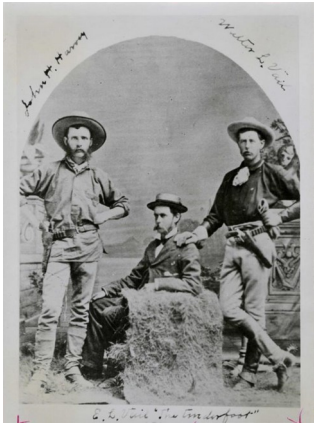
Great Western Trail 6S:
South Sonoita Highway to the Empire Ranch

This 34 mile long trail is among the most scenic and desolate in southeastern Arizona. It follows a buried pipeline in some areas, but this does not detract from its beauty, and in sections, its difficulty. It is remote for much of its length, and you should *never* drive it alone. Over 45,000 acres of grasslands and woodlands in southeastern Arizona are protected in the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area. Weldon Heald coined the term "sky islands" in 1967 to denote mountain ranges that are isolated from each other by intervening valleys of grassland or desert. The valleys of this basin and range country act as barriers to the movement of woodland and forest species, as saltwater seas isolate plants and animals on oceanic islands – hence the common association with the archipelago phenomenon.

Cienega Creek supports a diverse plant and animal community. The Empire and Cienega ranches, along with portions of the Rose Tree and Vera Earl ranches, are now managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). It and the Empire Ranch Foundation are dedicated to preserving the historic buildings and surrounding landscapes, which include the rarest habitats in the American Southwest: cienegas (marshlands), cottonwood-willow riparian forests,

alkalai sacaton (a tough grass found in dry habitats including sage scrub, grassland and deserts), mesquite bosques (gallery forest found growing along a river bank or on the flood plain of a watercourse), and semi-desert grasslands. It is also where many of the classic films about the old west were made, including *Red River*, *Duel in the Sun*, *Hombre*, *Winchester 73*, and *The Big Country*.

The Empire Ranch has been a working cattle ranch since the 1860's. It originated as a 160 acre homestead with a flat topped four-room adobe ranch house and adjoining adobe-walled corral. In 1876 Walter L. Vail bought the ranch from Edward Nye Fish, a Tucson businessman, for $2,000. Herbert Hislop, an Englishman and John Harvey, from Bermuda, joined the partnership a few months later.



Owners in 1879: John H. Harvey, Edward L. Vail The Tenderfoot, and Walter L. Vail.

Over the next 20 years, the partners expanded their holdings to over 100,000 acres. The Total Wreck silver mine was discovered, adding to ranch prosperity. They replaced the ranch house's earthen roofs with wooden gables, and enlarged it to 22 rooms and outbuildings. Propane and natural gas were piped into the house; an electric walk-in refrigerator installed and stucco applied to the outside walls.

6S-16 Total Wreck Mine

In 1896, Walter Vail moved his family and his corporate headquarters to Los Angeles. In 1913 his son, William Banning Vail, took over management. He and his family lived at the ranch until it was sold in 1928 to the Chiricahua Ranches Company.

In 1969, the Gulf American Corporation bought the ranch, planning to build a large residential community. In 1974 Anamax Mining Company purchased it, later leasing it to rancher John Donaldson. In 2009 the Tomlinson family, owners of the Vera Earl

Ranch in Sonoita, assumed the Donaldson grazing lease.

In 1976 the Empire Ranch House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Empire Ranch Foundation was established as a private non-profit organization in 1997 to preserve the ranch house and the outbuildings, and to create educational and recreational opportunities.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 6S-1: Turn east on the dirt road under the power lines approximately one mile from I-10 on South Sonoita Highway, AZ 83.

Waypoint 6S-29: Enter Empire Road from AZ 82 be tween mileposts 36 and 37.

Roads Comprising Trail: Jeep trails, E. Hilton Ranch Road, E. Empire Ranch Road, E. Yucca Farm Road, 900 Road, Empire Road.

Open months/Best Travel: All year.

Permits: Arizona State Land Permit.

Elevation Min/Max: 3519'/4676'

Total Unpaved Mileage: 34.2 miles.

Travel Time: 4.5 hours (not including a stop at the Empire Ranch).

Difficulty: easy to difficult.

Remoteness: 3/4.

Services Available: none on trail. Supplies and gas are available along I-10 and in Sonoita.

Driving the Trail: Much of this trail is on unnamed roads that loosely follow a buried pipe line. Due to the character of many of them, this trail easily could be called the “Up and Down Road.” There are several very steep hill climbing challenges for the adventurous, all of which can be bypassed.

After entering (turning east at 6S-1) the dirt road approximately one mile from where the exits from I-10 join AZ 83, the South Sonoita Highway, cross Charolais Road and bear right at the fork. This single lane road is not well maintained, although there are sections where it is graded, packed sand. I towed a Teardrop Trailer over the entire trail, so I would expect that *seasoned* off-roaders will

have little difficulty driving it. Much of it is remote, there are no services, and you should not drive it alone.

At 6S-2 this trail crosses the Arizona Trail. At 6S-4 bear right and go up the hill. You will be driving under power lines for most of the trail between here and 6S-8. At 6S-6 bear left. The up-down character becomes more evident, and the road is rutted, narrow, and covered with loose gravel in spots. There are minor roads branching off this trail. Always follow the main road, or the one that appears to be used the most.

The Pantano Substation is between 6S-8 and 6S-9, and a windmill at 6S-11. Bear right at the E. Hilton Ranch Road, 6S-13. This section is not maintained, is narrow, with loose rock, small rock outcroppings, and encroaching brush.

The Total Wreck Mine in the Empire Mountains is at 6S-16. At 6S-18 is a steep climb for those looking for a challenge. This and two others are easily bypassed. The section from 6S-21 to the end of the trail is easy and you can drive it in 2-WD.

You should not enter the water crossing at 6S-24 when it is flooded. The Empire Ranch entrance is at 6S-25. The remaining waypoints take you to the trail's exit on AZ 82. Turn right for Sonoita and supplies.

Road Information and Contacts: Arizona State Trust Department.

Restrictions: none.

Map References:

Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)

USGS Maps:

1:24,000: Mt Fagan, The Narrows, Spring Water Canyon, Elgin.

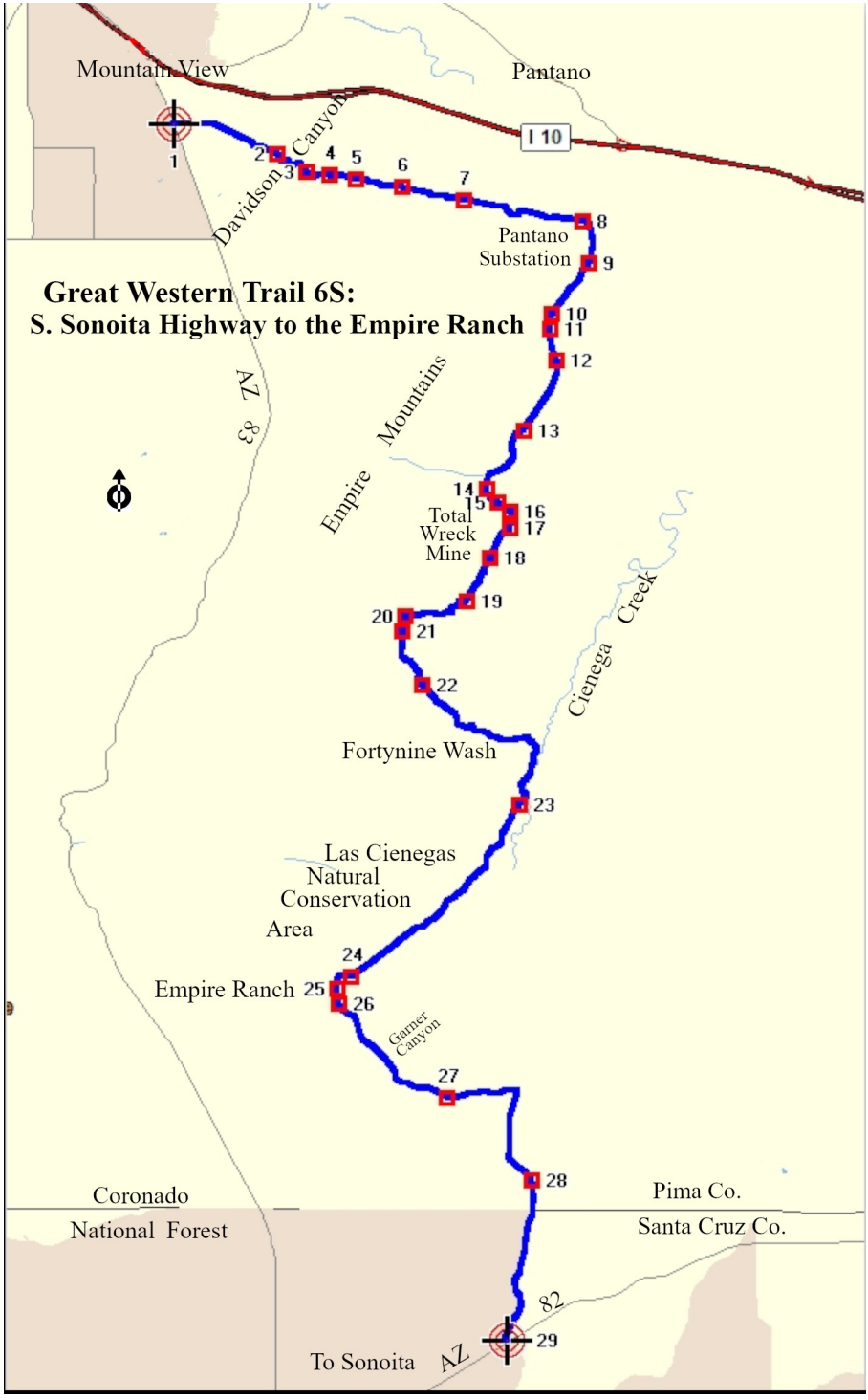
1:100,000: Fort Huachuca.

1:250,000: Nogales

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 54, 88.

Camping on the Empire Ranch

Water crossing at 6S-24


Great Western Trail 6S:
S. Sonoita Highway to the Empire Ranch
Mountain View
Pantano
I 10
Davidson Canyon
Pantano Substation
AZ 83
Empire Mountains
Total Wreck Mine
Cienega Creek
Fortynine Wash
Las Cienegas Natural Conservation Area
Empire Ranch
Garner Canyon
Coronado National Forest
Pima Co.
Santa Cruz Co.
82
To Sonoita AZ
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GWT 6S: South Sonoita Highway to the Empire Ranch

6S-1			**N 31° 59.4245' W 110° 40.9488'**
1.8▼	0.0▼		Turn east onto dirt road under power lines, then bear right at fork.
		34.2▲	*Exit onto AZ 83. Turn right for I-10.*
6S-2			**N 31° 58.9948' W 110° 39.2732'**
0.7▼	1.8▼		Crosses Arizona Trail.
		32.4▲	*Crosses Arizona Trail.*
6S-3			**N 31° 58.7362' W 110° 38.8016'**
0.5▼	2.5▼		Cross wash.
		31.7▲	*Cross wash.*
6S-4			**N 31° 58.6948' W 110° 38.4062'**
0.4▼	3.0▼		Bear right, then stay left up hill.
		31.2▲	*Go straight.*
6S-5			**N 31° 58.6396' W 110° 37.9796'**
0.8▼	3.4▼		Gate.
		30.8▲	*Gate.*
6S-6			**N 31° 58.5298' W 110° 37.2326'**
1.1▼	4.2▼		Bear left.
		30.0▲	*Go straight.*
6S-7			**N 31° 58.3354' W 110° 36.2240'**
2.1▼	5.3▼		Cross wash.
		28.9▲	*Cross wash.*
6S-8			**N 31° 58.0444' W 110° 34.2885'**
0.8▼	7.4▼		Bear right.
		26.8▲	*Go straight.*
6S-9			**N 31° 57.4318' W 110° 34.1859'**
1.1▼	8.2▼		Bear right.
		26.0▲	*Go straight.*
6S-10			**N 31° 56.7028' W 110° 34.7751'**
0.2▼	9.3▼		Bear left.
		24.9▲	*Bear right.*
6S-11			**N 31° 56.5036' W 110° 34.8183'**
0.5▼	9.5▼		Bear left.
		24.7▲	*Go straight.*

6S-12			**N 31° 56.0482' W 110° 34.7019'**
1.3▼	10.0▼		Gate.
		24.2▲	*Gate.*
6S-13			**N 31° 55.0485' W 110° 35.2497'**
1.3▼	11.3▼		Bear right.
		22.9▲	*Go straight.*
6S-14			**N 31° 54.2133' W 110° 35.8515'**
0.3▼	12.6▼		Bear left.
		21.6▲	Go straight.
6S-15			**N 31° 54.0027' W 110° 35.6799'**
0.3▼	12.9▼		Go straight.
		21.3▲	*Go straight.*
6S-16			**N 31° 53.8791' W 110° 35.4573'**
0.3▼	13.2▼		Total Wreck Mine.
		21.0▲	*Total Wreck Mine.*
6S-17			**N 31° 53.6487' W 110° 35.4621'**
0.6▼	13.5▼		Turn right.
		20.7▲	*Turn left.*
6S-18			**N 31° 53.2239' W 110° 35.7855'**
0.9▼	14.1▼		Bear left.
		20.1▲	*Go straight.*
6S-19			**N 31° 52.5987' W 110° 36.1854'**
1.2▼	15.0▼		Turn right.
		19.2▲	*Turn left.*
6S-20			**N 31° 52.3905' W 110° 37.1894'**
0.3▼	16.2▼		Go straight.
		18.0▲	*Bear right.*
6S-21			**N 31° 52.1667' W 110° 37.2266'**
1.1▼	16.5▼		Turn left.
		17.7▲	*Turn right.*
6S-22			**N 31° 51.4119' W 110° 36.8990'**
3.6▼	17.6▼		Cross road.
		16.6▲	*Cross road.*
6S-23			**N 31° 49.7009' W 110° 35.3081'**
4.2▼	21.2▼		Go straight.
		13.0▲	*Go straight.*

6S-24			**N 31° 47.2226' W 110° 38.0420'**
0.4▼	25.4▼		Water crossing.
		8.8▲	*Water crossing.*
6S-25			**N 31° 47.0582' W 110° 38.2970'**
0.3▼	25.8▼		Turn right into Empire Ranch.
		8.4▲	*Turn left into Empire Ranch.*
6S-26			**N 31° 46.8404' W 110° 38.2730'**
2.5▼	26.1▼		Go straight.
		8.1▲	*Go straight.*
6S-27			**N 31° 45.5083' W 110° 36.4779'**
2.8▼	28.6▼		Go straight.
		5.6▲	*Go straight.*
6S-28			**N 31° 44.3293' W 110° 35.1162'**
2.8▼	31.4▼		Continue on 900 Road.
		2.8▲	*Turn left onto E. Yucca Road.*
6S-29			**N 31° 42.0276' W 110° 35.5142'**
Arrive	34.2▼		Exit Trail on AZ 82. Turn right for Sonoita.
Start		*0.0▲*	*Enter Trail between milepost 36 and 37.*

John Harvey with horse Billy, Ca. 1880 at Empire Ranch near Sonoita, Arizona

Great Western Trail 7S:
Patagonia to Sonoita

This last section of the Great Western Trail starts in Patagonia, and for the most part, is on paved roads. It is an easy drive, rich in lore and history. Patagonia has a population of 913 and was developed in the mid-19th century as a trading and supply center for nearby mines and ranches. It is now a tourist destination, retirement community, and arts and crafts center.

7S-4 Harshaw Town site

The next stop is Harshaw, settled in the 1870s in the Arizona Territory. It was a mining community named after the cattleman-prospector David T. Harshaw, who found silver in the area. In 1880 the Hermosa mine produced $365,455 in bullion over a four-month period.

In 1890 James Finley bought the Harshaw Mine and built a new mill that was put into operation the same year. Three years later the Hermosa Mining Company leased the Harshaw Mine from Finley and remodeled the mill, but ran out of capital before finding ore. The demonetization of silver and the building of the railroad through the town of Patagonia, eight miles to the north, spelled the end of Harshaw. Finley died in 1903 and the mine was not developed further.

James Finley House

The James Finley House, 100 yards from the ruins of the

Hermosa Mill, was originally a three-room structure built with red bricks salvaged from a large smokestack in nearby Mowry. Later a porch, an adobe kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom were added. The three original rooms have a fireplace, windows with stone lintels and sills. It may have housed the Hermosa Mining Company.

The house, added to the National Register of Historic Places on November 19, 1974, is on private property across from the Hale Ranch headquarters. It is not open to visitors.

As is the case in many mining communities, Harshaw's population waxed and waned with the price of silver. By the 1960s, the mines had closed, and the town became a ghost town. A few houses, building foundations, two small cemeteries, and mine shafts are all that remain. Many of the buildings were torn down in the 1970s.

7S-8 Fray Marcos de Niza monument

Further south is the Fray Marcos de Niza monument. He emigrated to America in 1531 to explore the country north of Sonora. In 1537 he arrived in Mexico City and in March 1539, crossed south-eastern Arizona near Lochiel, and traveled to the Seven Cities of Cibola. His description of it as equal in size to Mexico City led Francisco Vázquez de Coronado to lead an expedition the following year to Zuni Pueblo, in New Mexico.

Fray Marcos was provincial superior of his order for Mexico and exercised the highest office of the Franciscans in the province.

Mexican ranchers inhabited the area before a smelting works was built in the 1870s to serve the mines in the Patagonia Mountains. By 1881 Luttrell, named after Dr. James Luttrell who ran boarding house, was home to 400 people, most of whom worked in the smelter or in the mines. It boasted of five stores, three saloons, a brewery, a butcher shop, a bakery, and livery stables.

In 1884 Colin Cameron established the San Rafael Ranch a mile north of Luttrell on the San Rafael de la Zanja Mexican land grant. That year he convinced the postmaster to rename it "Lochiel," which is the main branch of Clan Cameron, prominent in Scottish history. When a survey found that half of the settlement was in Mexican territory, La Noria became the name of the Mexican side while the American side retained the name Lochiel. A few people still live in the town, now the site of an adobe one-room schoolhouse, an adobe church, and an abandoned U.S. Customs station. The border, open during the seventies to allow residents of Santa Cruz, Sonora, access to the U.S, was closed in 1983.

On Christmas Eve in 1899, Cameron’s two-story house burned to the ground when it caught fire from a candle on the Christmas tree. A year later he built a luxurious three-story brick house. After losing a legal battle over land rights in 1903, he sold the ranch in the 1910s to his rival, Colonel William Cornell Greene, who owned copper mines in Cananea, Sonora. Greene bought the ranch to use as his headquarters for his cattle ranching empire.

Colonel Greene acquired 600,000 acres of ranch land on both sides of the international border, and the San Rafael Ranch became the headquarters for his cattle company, which raised tens-of-thousands of Hereford cattle. Pancho Villa raided the ranch for horses in the early 1910s.

Florence Greene Sharp and her husband inherited the ranch from her father in 1911. The ranching era came to an end in 1998, following the death of Florence and the sale of the ranch to The Nature Conservancy. In 1999 Arizona State Parks purchased 3,557 acres of the property, including the ranch house, for use as a Natural Area. In 2008, the San Rafael Ranch headquarters was designated a National

Historic District, but it is not open to the public.

7S-10 San Rafael Ranch

Little House on the Prairie, *McLintock!*, *The Big Country*, *Oklahoma!*, *Tom Horn*, *The Great White Hope*, and *The New Maverick*, and many others were filmed at the San Rafael Ranch.

Border fence between Mexico and the U.S.A.

How to Get There:

Waypoint 7S-1: In Patagonia turn into Taylor Avenue from AZ 82 and then turn left on McKeown Avenue.

Waypoint 7S-17: Start at the Shell Gas Station on AZ 82 and turn south on AZ 83.

Roads Comprising Trail: Taylor Avenue, McKeown Avenue,

Harshaw Avenue (FR 49), Duquesne Road (FR 61), FR 813, San Rafael Valley Road (FR 58), Forest Road 58S, Christian Lane, Ranch Road, Canelo Pass Road (FR 799), AZ 83.

Open months/Best Travel: All year.

Permits: Arizona State Land Permit.

Elevation Min/Max: 4055'/5525'

Mileage Total: 58.4 miles

Paved Mileage: 23.4 miles.

Unpaved Mileage: 35 miles.

Travel Time: 3 hours 30 minutes.

Difficulty: easy.

Remoteness: 1/4.

Services Available: none on the trail. Fuel and supplies are available in Patagonia and Sonoita.

Driving the Trail: In Patagonia, turn onto Taylor Avenue from AZ 82, then turn left onto McKeown Avenue which becomes Harshaw Avenue. There are few turns on this trail, but name changes on the same road occur frequently.

At 7S-3 you enter National Trust Land. The unpaved road begins here. It is generally well maintained, although there are occasional potholes, washboard, and flooded areas. The old Harshaw Town Site is at 7S-4. There is a small adobe structure in ruins here, and the James Finley family home is further up the road. The house is closed and off-limits to visitors, however if a family member is present, he or she may give you permission to walk the property.

A mining operation along the road is not accessible to the public. Harshaw Avenue becomes Duquesne Road at 7S-6, and a monument to Fray Marcos de Niza is at 7S-8. Search for the geocache.

In Lochiel at 7S-9, signs warn that the road to the border is accessible only to authorized vehicles. In our experience this road is open. There will likely be a Border Patrol vehicle parked in this intersection. Stop and ask permission to travel to the border.

At 7S-10 is the entrance to the San Rafael Ranch in the San Rafael State Natural Area, where John Wayne filmed *McLintock.*

The turn-off for a campsite is at 7S-14. All the land in this valley is privately owned, and I was informed by a rancher that trespassers are not welcomed (at least on his property), however this remote site is frequently used by off-roaders. There are no services, but it is in a shaded area and has a very large fire pit. It is 2.6 miles

from the waypoint, and the road is not well maintained but it is passable.

The pavements begins anew at 7S-15 on AZ 83. Follow this to the Shell Gas Station at 7S-17, the intersection of AZ 82 and AZ 83.

Road Information and Contacts: Arizona State Trust Department.

Restrictions: none.

Map References:

Terrain Navigator: CD Arizona South (AZ10)

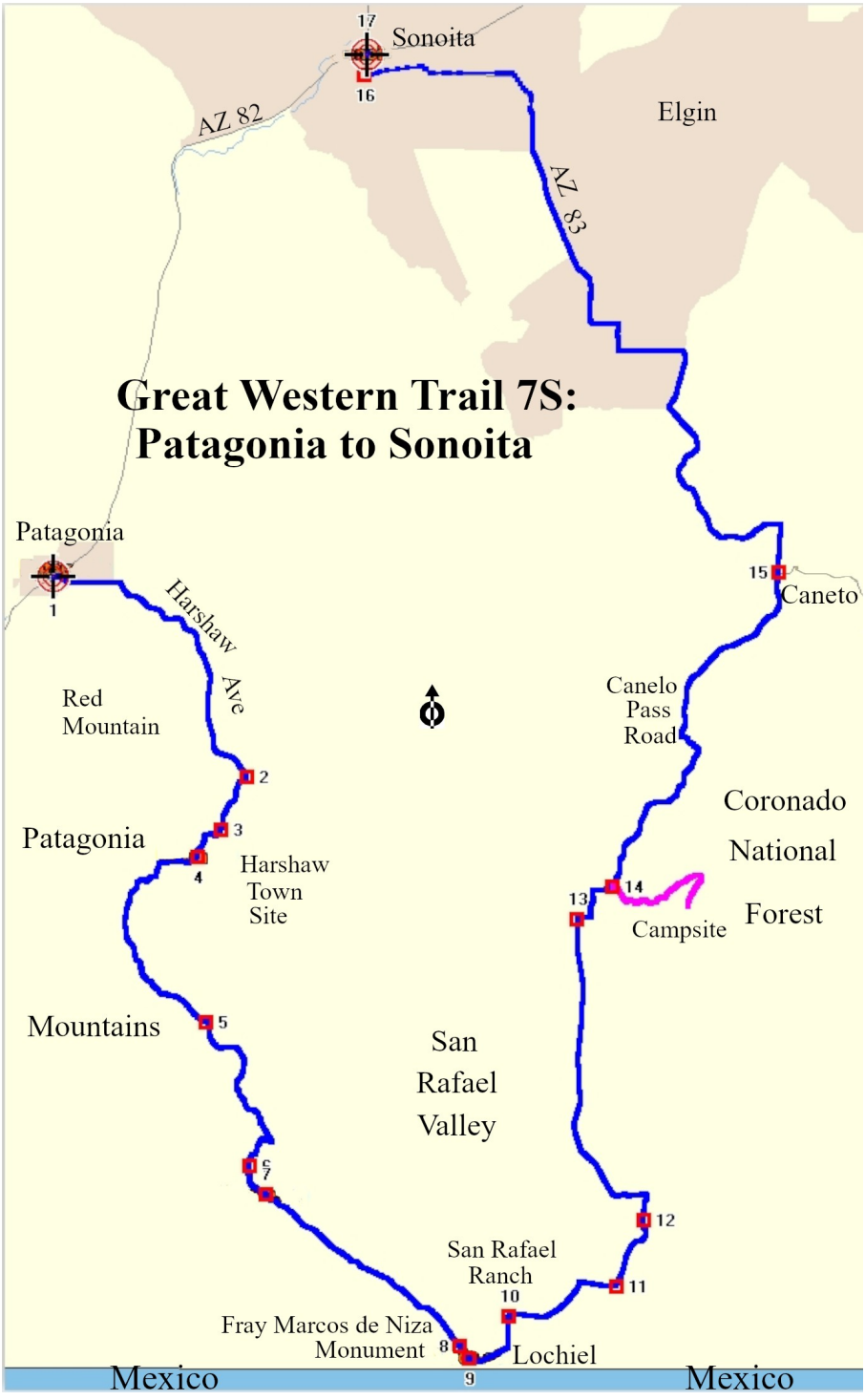
USGS Maps:

1:24,000: Sonoita, Elgin, O'Donnell Canyon, Canelo Pass, Lochiel, Duquesne, Harshaw, Mt. Hughes.

1:100,000: Fort Huachuca

1:250,000: Nogales (AZ)

Arizona Road & Recreation Atlas: pg. 54, 88.


Great Western Trail 7S:
Patagonia to Sonoita
Sonoita
Elgin
AZ 82
AZ 83
Patagonia
Harshaw Ave
Red Mountain
Canelo Pass Road
Caneto
Coronado National Forest
Campsite
Patagonia
Harshaw Town Site
Mountains
San Rafael Valley
San Rafael Ranch
Fray Marcos de Niza Monument
Lochiel
Mexico
Mexico
1
2
3
4
5
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17

GWT 7S: Patagonia to Sonoita

7S-1			**N 31° 32.4933' W 110° 45.0079'**
6.0▼	0.0▼		Taylor Ave then left on McKeown Ave.
		58.5▲	*Turn right on Taylor Avenue.*
7S-2			**N 31° 29.3282' W 110° 41.5193'**
1.1▼	6.0▼		Turn right on Harshaw Avenue.
		52.5▲	*Turn left.*
7S-3			**N 31° 28.4864' W 110° 42.0023'**
0.8▼	7.1▼		Enter National Trust Land.
		51.4▲	*Exit National Trust Land*
7S-4			**N 31° 28.0712' W 110° 42.4367'**
4.8▼	7.9▼		Harshaw Town Site.
		50.6▲	*Harshaw Town Site.*
7S-5			**N 31° 25.4641' W 110° 42.2670'**
3.8▼	12.7▼		Stay right.
		45.8▲	*Go straight.*
7S-6			**N 31° 23.1918' W 110° 41.4726'**
0.7▼	16.5▼		Go straight on Duquesne Road.
		42.0▲	*Go straight on Harshaw Avenue.*
7S-7			**N 31° 22.7502' W 110° 41.1816'**
4.6▼	17.2▼		Bear left.
		41.3▲	*Go straight.*
7S-8			**N 31° 20.3501' W 110° 37.6039'**
0.3▼	21.8▼		Monument Fray Marcos de Niza.
		36.7▲	*Monument Fray Marcos de Niza.*
7S-9			**N 31° 20.1437' W 110° 37.4257'**
1.4▼	22.1▼		Bear left. Border to right.
		36.4▲	*Bear right. Border to left.*
7S-10			**N 31° 20.8151' W 110° 36.6715'**
2.2▼	23.5▼		Entrance to San Rafael Ranch.
		35.0▲	*Entrance to San Rafael Ranch.*
7S-11			**N 31° 21.2831' W 110° 34.7341'**
1.5▼	25.7▼		Turn left.
		32.8▲	*Turn right.*

7S-12			**N 31° 22.3386' W 110° 34.2217'**
6.4▼	27.2▼		FR 813 becomes Forest Rd. Go straight.
		31.3▲	*Forest Rd becomes FR 813. Go straight.*
7S-13			**N 31° 27.0859' W 110° 35.4372'**
1.1▼	33.6▼		Turn right on Ranch Road.
		24.9▲	*Turn left.*
7S-14			**N 31° 27.5929' W 110° 34.7940'**
7.5▼	34.7▼		Turn right for campsite or go straight.
		2.8▲	*Turn left for campsite or go straight.*
7S-15			**N 31° 32.5647' W 110° 31.7419'**
15.9▼	42.2▼		Pavement begins, HWY 83.
		16.3▲	*Pavement ends, Canelo Pass Road.*
7S-16			**N 31° 40.4161' W 110° 39.3018'**
0.4▼	58.1▼		Turn right.
		0.4▲	*Turn left.*
7S-17			**N 31° 40.7352' W 110° 39.3031'**
Arrive	58.5▼		Shell station.
Start		*0.0▲*	*Shell station.*

7S-17 End of the Great Western Trail in Sonoita, Arizona

Appendix A: What to bring along.

This list is only a guide; modify it to suit your personal needs. Your vehicle's condition and its quirky needs, the time of year you intend to travel, the number of people in your party, and your comfort needs all require careful, individual consideration.

Bring what you feel is essential but avoid unnecessary weight that may compromise your vehicle's efficiency.

Your primary focus should be water, fuel, and communication devices.

Vehicle equipment:

Fuel.

Consider engine oils (motor, transmission, brake and steering), but don't plan to change your oil and filter along the trail.

Shovel, ax, flares.

High lift jack, lug wrench.

Fire extinguisher.

Multi-tool kit. (Metric sizes for foreign vehicles, SAE otherwise. Bring both for newer trucks).

Sledgehammer, crowbar.

Multimeter.

Fuse, nuts and bolts assortment.

Engine belts (better to check them before you leave home).

Hose clamps, JB Weld.

Tow strap.

Rags, hand cleaner, electrical and duct tape, zip ties.

Spare tire, valve core, core removing tool and cap, lug nuts, extra set of keys.

Tire plug kit. I do not recommend gunk in a can since it does not seal punctures in the sidewall of the tire and you must remove it as soon as possible since it will cause tire imbalance.

Maps, GPS, this book.

Tire pressure gauge, bicycle tire pump.

CB, cellphone, ham radio (you don't need a license to use it in an emergency), satellite phone or PLB (personal locator beacon).

Complete pre-trip vehicle inspection.

Tarpaulin to lie on when you're working under your vehicle. You can also use it for shade if you're lost in the desert.

Winch with accessories.

Camping gear:

Tent and groundsheet.

Table and chairs.

Lanterns, flashlights, radio.

Sleeping bag and pad, pillow.

Stove with fuel and lighter (important when there are campfire restrictions).

Pots, pans, paper plates and silverware.

Resealable food containers.

Camp suds, matches, paper towels, and trash bags.

Water, water, and more water.

First aid kit.

Personal items:

Rain gear, hat, hiking boots, knife, and compass.

Jacket, sweater and usual clothing.

Toiletries.

Camera.

Medications.

Water and water purification tablets, bug spray.

Signal mirror, waterproof match case.

Police whistle. Three blasts mean, "help needed."

Appendix B: Forest Service Contacts

Arizona State Office of the Bureau of Land Management:

Jim Kenna, State Director
Ray Suazo, Associate State Director
One North Central Avenue, Suite 800
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4427
Voice: 602-417-9500
Fax: 602-417-9398
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., M-F.

Arizona Strip Field Office
345 East Riverside Drive
St. George, UT 84790-6714
Voice: (435) 688-3200
Fax: (435) 688-3258
E-mail: ASFOWEB_AZ@blm.gov
District Manager: Scott Florence
Field Manager: Lorraine Christian
Hours: 7:45 a.m – 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday
10:00 a.m – 3:00 p.m., Saturday

Gila District Office
Anthony (Scott) Feldhausen
District Manager
3201 East Universal Way
Tucson, AZ 85756
Phone: 520-258-7200
Fax: 520-258-7238
E-mail: blm_az_gdo_mailbox@blm.gov

Safford Field Office
Scott Cooke

Field Manager
711 14th Avenue
Safford, AZ 85546
Phone: 928-348-4400
Fax: 520-258-7238
E-mail: blm_az_sfoweb@blm.gov

Tucson Office
Melissa Warren
Field Manager
3201 East Universal Way
Tucson, AZ 85756
Phone: 520-258-7200
Fax: 520-258-7238
E-mail: blm_az_tfoweb@blm.gov

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument
345 East Riverside Drive
St. George, UT 84790-6714
Voice: (435) 688-3200
Fax: (435) 688-3258
Monument Manager**:** Rosie Pepito, Acting
Hours: 7:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday
10:00 a.m – 3:00 p.m., Saturday

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument
Linda Price, Monument Manager
345 E. Riverside Drive
St. George, UT 84790-6714
Voice: (435) 688-3200

Hassayampa Field Office
21605 N. 7th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027-2929
Voice: (623) 580-5500
Fax: (623) 580-5580
E-mail: PFOWEB_AZ@blm.gov
District Manager: Angelita Bulletts
Field Manager: Steve Cohn

Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m., M-F.

Agua Fria National Monument
Rem Hawes, Monument Manager
21605 N. 7th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027-2929
Voice: (623) 580-5500

Apache and Sitgeaves National Forests:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/asnf/

Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box 640
Springerville, AZ 85938
Voice: (928) 333-4301
TTY: (928) 333-6292
Forest Supervisor: Chris Knopp
Public Affairs Officer: Pam Baltimore

Alpine Ranger District
P.O. Box 469 Alpine, AZ 85920
Voice: (928) 339-5000
TTY: (928) 339-4566

Lakeside Ranger District
2022 W White Mt. Bl.
Lakeside, AZ 85929
Voice: (928) 368-2100
TTY: (928) 368-5088

Springerville Ranger District
P.O. Box 760
Springerville, AZ 85938
Voice: (928) 333-6200
TTY: (928) 333-5397

Arizona State Parks:

http://azstateparks.com/index.html

Arizona State Parks
1300 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 542-4174

Coronado National Forest:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/

Supervisor's Office
Jim Upchurch, Forest Supervisor
300 W. Congress St.
Tucson, AZ 85701
Voice: (520) 388-8300
Fax: (520) 388-8305
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.
Closed on federal holidays.

Nogales Ranger District
James Copeland, District Ranger
303 Old Tucson Road
Nogales, AZ 85621
Voice: (520) 281-2296
Fax: (520) 281-2396
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F. Closed on federal holidays.

Douglas Ranger District
Bill Edwards, District Ranger
1192 West Saddleview Road
Douglas, AZ 85607
Voice: (520) 364-3468
Fax: (520) 364-6667
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M-F.
Closed on federal holidays.

Saffron Ranger District

Kent Elliot, District Ranger
711 14th Avenue, Suite D
Saffron, AZ 85546
Voice: (928) 428-4150
Fax: (928) 428-2393
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., M-F.
Closed on federal holidays.

Sierra Vista Ranger District
Annette Chafes, District Ranger
5990 S. Highway 92
Hereford, AZ 85615
Voice: (520) 378-0311
Fax: (520) 378-0519
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.
Closed on federal holidays.

Santa Catalina Ranger District
Stan Helin, District Ranger
Angela Elam, Deputy District Ranger
5700 N. Serbian Canyon Road
Tucson, AZ 85750
Voice: (520) 749-8700
Fax: (520) 749-7723

Coconino National Forest:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/

Supervisor's Office
1824 S. Thompson St.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928) 527-3600, FAX 527-3620
Office Hours:8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.
Fire Dispatch Emergency: (928) 526-0600

Flagstaff Ranger District
5075 N. Highway 89
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Voice: (928) 526-0866
Fax: (928) 527-8288
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.

Mormon Lake office
This office is closed to the public.

Red Rock Ranger District and Visitor Contact Center
P. O. Box 20429
8375 State Route 179,
Sedona, AZ 86341-0429
Voice: (928) 203-7500 or (928) 203-2900
Fax: (928) 203-7539
Administration Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.
Visitor Center Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., 7 days a week.

Happy Jack Info Center – CLOSED

Mogollon Rim Ranger District
8738 Ranger Road
Happy Jack, AZ 86024
Blue Ridge Office:
Voice: (928) 477-2255
Fax: (928) 527-8282
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., M-F.

Kaibab National Forest:

http://www.fs.fed.us/
Select Kaibab from Find a Forest or Grassland by Name.

Supervisor's Office
800 South Sixth Street
Williams, AZ 86046
Voice: (928) 635-8200
Fax: (928) 635-8208

Williams Ranger District

742 South Clover Road
Williams, Arizona 86046
Voice: (928) 635-5600
Fax: (928) 635-5680

Williams/Forest Service Visitor Center
Voice: (928) 635-4707

North Kaibab Ranger District
430 South Main Street
PO Box 248
Fredonia, Arizona 86022
Voice: (928) 643-7395
Fax: (928) 643-8105

Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center
Voice: (928) 643-7298

Tusayan Ranger District
176 Lincoln Log Loop
PO Box 3088
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023
Voice: (928) 638-2443
Fax: (928) 638-1065

Navajo Ranger Stations:

http://www.navajonationparks.org/

The Ranger Station closest to the Great Western Trail is the
Cameron Visitor Center
P.O. Box 459
Cameron, AZ 86020
Voice: (928) 679-2303
Fax: (928) 679-2017
email: lcr@navajonationparks.org
This is located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Highways 89 and 64.

Prescott National Forest:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/prescott/

Supervisor's Office
344 S Cortez Street
Prescott AZ 86303
Voice: (928) 443-8000
TTY: (928) 443-8001
Email: Debbie Maneely: dmaneely@fs.fed.us

Bradshaw Ranger District
44 S Cortez St
Prescott AZ 86303
Voice: (928) 443-8000
TTY: (928) 443-8001

Chino Valley Ranger District
735 N Highway 89
Chino Valley, AZ 86323
Voice: (928) 777-2200
TTY: (928) 443-8001

Verde Ranger District
P.O. Box 670
300 East Highway 260
Camp Verde, AZ 86322
Voice: (928) 567-4121
TTY: (928) 443-8001

Prescott Fire Center
2400 Melville Road
Prescott AZ 86301
Voice: (928) 777-5610
TTY: (928) 443-8001

Tonto National Forest:

http://www.fs.fed.us/

Select Tonto from Find a Forest or Grassland by Name.

Supervisor's Office
2324 E. McDowell Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85006
Voice: (602) 225-5200

Cave Creek Ranger District
40202 N. Cave Creek Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
Voice: (480) 595-3300

Globe Ranger District
7680 S. Six Shooter Canyon Road
Globe, Arizona 85501
Voice: (928) 402-6200

Mesa Ranger District
5140 E. Ingram Street.
Mesa, Arizona 85205
Voice: (480) 610-3300

Usery Mountain Park Recreation Area
Voice: (480) 984-0032

Payson Ranger District
1009 E. Hwy 260
Payson, Arizona 85541
Voice: (928) 474-7900

Pleasant Valley Ranger District
P.O. Box 450, FR 63
Young, Arizona 85554
Voice: (928) 462-4300

Tonto Basin Ranger District
28079 N. AZ Highway 188
Roosevelt, Arizona 85545
Voice: (928) 467-3200

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The Authors

Raymond and Jennifer Andrews have been avid off-road enthusiasts since 1997 when they first began exploring the desert around Winslow, Arizona. By 1999 they had driven all of the easier trails in the Phoenix area and were looking for new challenges and a new vehicle. They found the first on the Rubicon Trail, one of the most notorious and difficult trails in the country. Under the expert tutelage of Harald Pietschmann, owner of the Adventure Company, they learned to drive over boulders as high as the hood of a Jeep and to avoid mistakes that could result in a rollover or costly vehicle repair.

The second was a new yellow Jeep they modified to survive the toughest off-road challenges Arizona has to offer.

A year after their trip to the Rubicon they were featured in an article in The New York Times, "Going off Road, Two by Two," by George P. Blumberg.

Since then they have gone on numerous trips into the wildernesses of Arizona and California with their Jeep and trailers. This book details the challenges they encountered and the roads they traveled while mapping and driving the Great Western Trail in Arizona.